FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CARICOM MINISTERS HOLD FIRST DAY OF DISCUSSIONS

Price, King Remarks

FL180201 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Foreign ministers of CARICOM have held the first day of discussions in Belmopan. The discussions began with an address by Premier Price. [The] premier has said that Caribbean countries today, including Belize, face the challenges of transformations at every level. The premier was speaking at the opening of the extraordinary meeting of the standing committee of CARICOM foreign ministers in Belmopan.

The premier said it is Belize's hope and prayer that our emergence as a new nation will help to bring stability and social justice to this troubled part of the world.

[Begin recording] Excellencies: Our meeting here in Belmopan comes at a time when world attention as never before is focused on Belize as a [words indistinct] in finding a peaceful and honorable solution to an ancient territorial dispute. It comes at a time when the whole region has come under the close scrutiny of the world. An independent Belize will enter the region with much to offer our neighbors who are plagued with internal problems. It is our hope and prayer that our emergence as a new nation in the Caribbean basin will help to bring stability and social justice to our troubled (?part) of the world. Future historians no doubt will interpret the [words indistinct] of the 20th Century as a vital period of national and international transformation. [end recording]

CARICOM Secretary General Dr Kurleigh King described the meeting as major consultations while the struggle for Belize's independence is giving way to a new phase of cooperation. He added that the meeting is also evidence of the solidarity and common values of the Caribbean community.

Dr King was joined by The Honorable George Odlum, chairman of the standing committee, and The Honorable John Donaldson, representative of the more developed countries of CARICOM, the MDO's, in congratulating the premier, his government and the people of Belize for the heads [as heard] of agreement achieved so far in solving the Anglo-Guatemalan dispute.

The CARICOM foreign ministers will be special guests at a large reception tonight in Belmopan. They will continue their deliberations tomorrow.

Further Details

FL180032 Bridgetown CANA in English 0012 GMT 18 Mar 81

[By Norris Hall]

[Excerpt] Belize, 17 Mar (CANA)--Belize Premier George Price today said that last week's tripartite agreement signed in London ostensibly pointing the way to a settlement of the century-old territorial dispute between the British colony and neighboring Guatemala, was not "a full and final settlement" of the issue.

But, he said, it provided the basis for Belize--Britain's last remaining colony on the American mainland--to proceed to political independence by year-end, with its traditional boundaries intact and without quarrel or war.

Premier Price spoke at the official opening of a 2-day emergency meeting of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) foreign ministers here.

The ministers are discussing ways in which they could help guarantee a safe, secure move to independence for Belize, for years threatened with invasion by Guatemala, which has been demanding sections of Belizean territory. Foreign ministers or their delegates are attending from Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts-Nevis, Trinidad and Tobago, the Commonwealth Secretariat and CARICOM.

Mr Price said that he was very conscious of the fact that without the solid support of CARICOM members it would have been impossible to have "reached this far in attaining our just objectives". Though the agreement signed in London was not a full and final settlement of the dispute, Mr Price told his Caribbean colleagues, it was very important that Belize can now proceed to nationhood and that Guatemala will accept and respect that independence.

Mr Price said: "We have a duty to the region to promote justice and equality in a truly participatory society, so that by applying rightly the powers of science and technology we can create resources for all to share and thus rescue humanity from under-development."

Addressing the opening session, CARICOM Secretary General Dr Kurleigh King said the tripartite agreement was incontestable one of the most significant achievements to date of the Caribbean Community's coordinated approach in the area of foreign affairs. He said that while Belize was an integral part of the Caribbean Community, sharing its values and aspirations, its commitment to the task of the rapid social and economic development of our people, it is at the same time situated in Central America, whose people, like our own have a common history of deprivation and exploitation.

Belize, Dr King said, was therefore well placed to play the role of interpreting one region to the other and in promoting those links between the people of these subregions which can so significantly support alternative strategies of economic cooperation.

Saint Lucian Foreign Minister George Odlum, chairman of the Standing Committee of Foreign Ministers of CARICOM congratulated Mr Price on what had been achieved so far in resolving the territorial dispute. Mr Odlum spoke for CARICOM's lesser developed countries (LDC's).

John Donaldson, minister of external affairs of Trinidad and Tobago speaking on behalf of the (MDC's) more developed countries, also congratulated the Belizean Government and people on the signing of the London agreement.

OCLAE DENOUNCES 'SYSTEMATIC TERROR' IN EL SALVADOR

FL101301 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1214 GMT 10 Mar 81

[Text] The Permanent Secretariat of the Continental Organization of Latin American Students--OCLAE--has denounced in the city of Havana the escalation of repression unleashed by the genocidal Christian Democratic regime against the Salvadoran people. The document notes that as a result of its helplessness to stop the victories of the Farabundo Marti Front in vast areas of El Salvador, the Christian Democratic junta has been applying a systematic policy of terror and repression with the support of the imperialist U.S. Government.

On another subject, the OCLAE Permanent Secretariat has condemned the Chilean fascists' intentions of enforcing, beginning tomorrow, its constitutional miscreation which was prepared behind the backs of the people. The OCLAE document denounces U.S. aid to Pinochet and his allies.

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH MINEWORKERS' LEADERS

PY171309 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpts] President Luis Garcia Meza has made a fervent appeal for the unity of the Bolivian people. During a meeting yesterday with labor representatives of the mining sector, the president remarked: All Bolivians need to unite to build up a new society, a single powerful force which will carry us forward toward the solution of our national problems.

The president was visited at Government Palace by the labor coordinators of the country's state mining centers and were accompanied by Mining Corporation of Bolivia officials. The mineworkers' leaders made a number of proposals to the president regarding matters of interest to the mineworkers, and President Garcia Meza said that those questions will be studied by the government to find adequate solutions to each problem.

The talks between the president and mineworkers' leaders lasted for several hours, and in the course of the meeting the president stressed the need to consolidate unity among the Bolivian people.

Regarding the request made by the mineworkers for the revision of the curfew at the mining centers, since the mineworkers have to work in shifts, General Garcia Meza explained that the curfew is part of the moralization program introduced by the government to put the country in order. He promised them, however, to keep their request in mind.

Another matter put before the president by the mineworkers' leaders was the return of the mining radio stations to the workers. Regarding this question, President Garcia Meza said this request is being studied by the government and that there is a favorable inclination to grant the request as long as the radio stations fulfill a social need at the service of the workers and are not used for political purposes.

PRESIDENT INSTALLS MEMBERS OF ANTIDRUG COUNCIL

PY140115 Paris AFP in Spanish 1741 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 13 Mar (AFP)--Bolivian President Luis Garcia Meza has installed Col David Fernandez, Col Arturo Doria Medina and Maj Luis Cossio as members of the National Council for Combatting Drug Trafficking.

This maeans that cocaine trafficking will no longer be suppressed by the Office for the Control of Dangerous Substances of the Interior Ministry, but directly by the armed forces.

Col David Fernandez is one of the leading air force officers and Doria Medina is the commander of the Tarapaca Armored Regiment, which is considered one of the most powerful military units in the country.

Taking the oath of office, Colonel Fernandez said that he will fight drug trafficking because this activity has put in jeopardy the honor of the armed forces and of the fatherland itself.

For his part, Colonel Doria Medina said that he will comply with his duties no matter who is hurt or who falls.

ARMY REPORTS 'DISCIPLINARY' INCIDENT IN LA PAZ

PY172054 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1946 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 17 Mar (LATIN)--The Bolivian Army reported that incidents of disciplinary nature took place today during military exercises carried out in this capital.

Without specifying what type of disciplinary problem had arisen, a communique of the 1st Army Division Command stated that, in order to avoid erroneous interpretations, it points out that there is complete tranquility in the La Paz district and other garrisons in the country.

The mobilization of troops took place near the army military school, the most important military institute of the country, located in southern La Paz.

The uneasiness of the population in this area increased this morning when communications with the rest of the country and abroad were completely cut off. This problem was solved after a few hours.

Military units were deployed in the main avenues of the Alacoto and Irpavi neighborhoods, southern La Paz.

The army communique indicated that routine tactical exercises carried out early this morning created incidents of a disciplinary nature in the southern sector of the city, creating unjustified alarm among the population.

Fernando Palacios, presidential press and information secretary, told this Agency that communications were interrupted due to a technical problem in the plant of the telecommunications enterprise.

NEWS CENSORSHIP ORDERED IN SANTA CRUZ CITY

PY181123 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0350 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Santa Cruz de la Sierra, 17 Mar (TELAM)--The prefect of Santa Cruz Department today ordered total censorship of the newscasts of radio stations in Santa Cruz City, 1,000 kilometers east of La Paz.

According to information supplied by several executives of [words indistinct] during the morning the press departments of the radios to stop broadcasting information collected by those departments, and that to broadcast news programs they were to enter network with a command station which, in turn, would broadcast the news from the state radio in La Paz.

Santa Cruz, the country's second city of importance, has more than 12 radios currently on the air broadcasting their own newscasts. The compiling and broadcasting of newscasts by the radios themselves had been banned since 17 July 1980 by the current military regime. The ban was lifted in October when radios located in the interior again began broadcasting their own newscasts, but the ban continues in La Paz. The only newscasts broadcast in La Paz are compiled by the journalists of Radio Illimani, the official government radio.

BANZER EYES POSSIBLE FUTURE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PY171157 Paris AFP in Spanish 0012 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] La Paz, 16 Mar (AFP)--Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez, former Bolivian president from 1971-78, did not dismiss the possibility of becoming a presidential candidate once again in a statement made in Santa Cruz today after his return from the United States.

Although Banzer Suarez traveled without official representation, he met with OAS Secretary General Alejandro Orfila, IDB President Antonio Ortiz Mena and President Ronald Reagan's advisers. It was learned that the former president gave his opinion on how to improve Bolivia's image abroad [words indistinct] that there is great interest in the United States in solving the differences separating the regime from Washington [words indistinct].

Although Banzer believes it is premature to call elections under the current circumstances, he said that the armed forces must begin to study political reforms to eliminate fraud in future democratic elections.

HERRERA CAMPINS GIVES ANNUAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

PA140100 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1453 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Speech to Congress by Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins at the end of his second year in office--live]

[Excerpts] My government is free of ties to influential sectors [words indistinct] capital, it admits the need to have first-class managerial, business and executive personnel that are capable, audacious and imaginative. They must be creative and have sufficient ability to avoid obstacles and sail in the clear.

I am sympathetic toward those who create goods, those who have initiative and desire the speedy transformation of our country. I prefer those who give wings to their dreams rather than those who clip their wings. I prefer dreamers and optimists to defeatists immersed in pessimism.

Venezuela confronts the challenge of development. We have resources, faith and determination. We lack understanding and the search for the common denominator which integrates efforts, multiplies them, and projects them into collective creations.

I have never denied the existence of problems and try to understand attitudes. Personal security and rights should be an attainable aspiration. The struggle against crime should be an attainable aspiration. The struggle against crime should be preventive, educational and repressive at the same time. We are waging a battle which certain interests are trying to distort because they are afraid of being exposed. The people have enthusiastically welcomed the [word indistinct] operation because they see in it a means to attain security. But there are hypocrites who cry for order and ask for the police, but then when the police does its duty, they clamor for their withdrawal. [applause]

The government has never tried to abuse anyone, but it wants to prevent abuses by hoodlums who operate more frequently in districts without police vigilance than in urban centers. It is the people who demand more police protection and they are getting it, even though some arrogant skepticism tries to pressure us into suspending the operation. [applause]

Latin America is observing the trends of the new U.S. Government. Latin America is a friend of the United States. It wants to continue being a friend of the United States. This friendship offers respect and demands it. Day by day Latin Americans feel the essence of the unity which gathers us, calls and beckons. We feel the need to be an integrated, harmonious and multilateral people. We want this truth to be known. It goes beyond geography and politics.

Each one of us can and should speak, but we all want to be heard as a [words indistinct]. We are aware of the importance of our presence in the continent and the world. We continue the struggle for a new international order and the institutionalization of freedom and democracy, for the existence of human rights and social justice and for the attainment of a stable peace.

The policy of financing for petroleum purchases, begun by Venezuela for the Central American and Caribbean countries, and its invitation to Mexico to join this policy, is testimony to our active solidarity with developing nonpetroleum-producing countries.

This system has not sacrificed prices, nor has it distorted our solidarity with the rest of the OPEC countries. This union is the direct result of the deterioration of terms of exchange between developed countries and those still developing.

The organization replaced our weaknesses when we were alone and paid a vile price for our hydrocarbons. Venezuela maintains its loyalty to OPEC and its unity, which is in the final instance the realization of an idea born in the mind of a great Venezuelan, Juan Pablo Perez Alfonso. [applause]

OPEC's role will be more influential as its solidarity and common goals increase. That is why we are concerned with the conflict between the friendly countries of Iraq and Iran, which the rest of the world has allowed to continue to see if it has disastrous negative effects on OPEC and thus be able to destroy it, with developed nations then falling upon the producing and exporting countries, considered individually.

The cooperation program with Mexico, Central America, Panama and the Caribbean countries, Santo Domingo, Jamaica and Barbados, is the object of favorable comments because of its significance and effects, since it is not only cooperation for petroleum supplies but also to stimulate the formation of a development plan in each of these countries that benefit, to end their overall dependence.

I have told diplomatic representatives and guests from the industrialized nations from this and other continents that developing nations without strategic resources are submitted to triple pressure they cannot stand without the presence of active solidarity. Inflation imposes the constant price hike of manufactured goods, the hike in the prices of petroleum and the elevated rates of monetary interests at the international finance markets. Hence the need to design a democracy for the poor, for the nations of scant resources, which have as much right to enjoy well-being, liberty, prosperity and democracy as the industrialized nations.

The incident provoked by the Cuban Government with relation to the problem of the right of asylum was the exclusive responsibility of the Fidelista regime. When we were on the brink of arriving at an honorable agreement, we were treacherously attacked by that Antillean dictator, taking advantage of the circumstance of his problem with Peru. [applause] This incident later was aggravated by the violent reaction caused by the decision of the court-martial with relation to the celebrated case of the Cuban plane. Verbal violence, slander and infamy were the weapons used by those incapable of understanding that there can be a government like Venezuela's which respects the autonomy of the judicial branch. [applause]

In the [passage indistinct] there is no dictates of the political interests (?by officials) of the governments. In a vigorous, firm and resolute manner, we have rejected each and every one of the accusations made by the communist government of Cuba and its media spokesmen, reaffirming the right of asylum and our respect for the independence of the judicial branch. [applause]

My government has said that it does not plan to take the initiative in breaking relations but, as a precautionary measure, various contacts have been made with friendly countries in order that, in the event that such a break occurs, they may take charge of Venezuela's interests. As a de jure state, we have acted with a sense of precaution in the international legal field.

We have been supporters of giving the Andean Pact a new dimension: politics, which does not deny but complements the principles which made it possible to form the Cartagena agreement. In this world it is impossible to conceive of the implementation of a subregional integration policy without taking into account the political factor, which conditions the national attitudes of each country. The policy of institutionalization of liberty and democracy in the continent has found sincere backing in the Andean Group, and this political presence has been able to resolve, at the level of international organizations, problems such as the case of Dictator Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua. We acted with respect for the principle of nonintervention, but without falling into indifference.

We cannot be alien to the problem of the liberty of man in any part of the world where conditions of human dignity are affected or injured. We know the Andean Pact is going through difficult situations, especially after the coup d'etat in Bolivia, which broke the possibility of completing the picture of democratization of the Andean area.

The desire of the American continent is democracy. Against this aspiration of the peoples, extremists of the right and the left are fighting. All they get is [words indistinct] idolatry of violence and the negation of liberties, rights and guarantees of the citizens.

The national government has given its support for the process of social and democratic improvement in El Salvador. [applause] We have always cautioned that our position goes beyond ideological activity among the civilian members of the Salvadoran Government junta and Venezuela's ruling party. We have cooperated in the nationalization of banks and the initiation of an agrarian reform which had been delayed by all the previous governments because of the economic predomination of groups who opposed all social transformations. We have encouraged the intent of a democratic opening to overcome the process of violence and terrorism taking place there. We have encouraged the democratic goal sought by the government through free consultations and we have seen with sympathy and backed the moves to establish a just peace which will not only take into account political aspects but also the economic and social at play.

We have offered a friendly hand to the people of Nicaragua within a [words indistinct] of sincerity and cooperation which has deserved repeated public recognition by the members of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. This attitude has been unchanging. And we have always noted that Latin America's support for Nicaragua's revolutionary process is on the basis of the emerging of a regime of liberties and democracy and not the simple replacement of a dynastic dictatorship with a leftist totalitarianism. [applause]

At no time have we shown the attitude that has opened the door to [words indistinct] motive or pretext that the abandonment of the democratic government pushed toward Marxist totalitarianism. Regarding this orientation, we have exchanged views with Latin American and European nations, particularly with those that also try to understand, such as Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, the Dominican Republic, Colombia and Peru.

We have continued the process of delimitation of marine areas. We concluded an agreement with France, which Congress must consider during the course of this year.

Communications with the United States and the Dominican Republic have been approved by the respective legislatures. Ratifications have been exchanged with the United States and the one with the Dominican Republic is pending. Negotiations continue with Trinidad and Tobago.

The conversations begun in 1979 with the sister republic of Colombia for the delimitation of marine and submarine areas in the Gulf of Venezuela ended with a hypothesis of agreement presented to the governments by the negotiating committees. This draft agreement was made known to the nation before making a definite decision. The government first informed the eminent Venezuelans who had previously exercised the leadership of state and the leaders of the basic sectors, and then placed it at the consideration of the people.

I stated that the government would proceed according to what public opinion decided. If there were consensus, it would be signed, but if there were no consensus, the agreement would not be signed and it would have to be reconsidered for the good of the parties. I have publicly commended at every turn to all sectors the Venezuelan commission's meritorious work, done with so much dedication and patriotism. I told the country about my decision not to sign that agreement, and I notified the Colombian Government of this decision for which [words indistinct] all factors involved in the decision. I urged that sufficient time be used to stop speculation and to wait for a favorable climate that will enable us to reach a successful, worthy and honorable end for everyone in benefit of the unbreakable peace between our nations and for the sake of achieving a fair, historic and healthy agreement. Regardless of the objections made to the project, it is clear that the national majority understands the need for the negotiation and supports a solution achieved through direct talks. Such a delicate issue should be discussed with maximum rationality.

In an America where we have bitterly defended the right of asylum, so thrashed about by the leftwing and rightwing dictatorships and by terrorist violence, we had to grapple with the difficult situation of the repudiated attack on the Dominican Republic's Embassy in Bogota, where several countries' diplomats, including our ambassador, consul and vice consul in that city, were taken hostage.

We are in permanent contact with the Colombian Government.

They had to face alone a situation in which only they were competent. We always trusted their ability to handle the delicate situation. I want to express here my gratitude for the services rendered by an outstanding Venezuelan politician, my great and noble friend, former ambassador Numa Quevedo, who on my request went to Bogota and contributed with his wisdom and experience to solve the problem.

The office in charge of coordinating the border integration programs with Colombia has continued working on some projects that are pending [words indistinct]. Progress has been made regarding the basin drainage between Colombia and Venezuela which is important for the common and harmonious development of water resources of the two countries.

There is the joint cooperation on a program which is in progress to use the hydraulic resources of the basin of [words indistinct] in the specific case of the Arauca River, the existing agreements will be effective for the preservation of the international [words indistinct].

Venezuela follows a clear and definite line in promoting the subregional and regional integration process. We offered our good offices, against the will of many, because we thought it was necessary to prevent an armed conflict between Ecuador and Peru.

We also looked at [words indistinct] with sympathy, mostly because of its effort to change the rigid course of former procedures which had served the integration of transnationals rather than the integration of the national economies of Latin America.

In 1980 Venezuela was the recipient of many international distinctions which we took as recognition of our coherent and firm democracy and the broadmindedness of our foreign policy. Among the distinctions were the presidency of the Group of 77 in the FAO, in the United Nations, in which capacity we will host in May the meeting of the 117 foreign ministers of the member countries.

Our foreign minister, Zambrano Velasco, chaired the OAS meeting in November 1980 in Washington. An outstanding Venezuelan jurist was appointed assistant secretary general of the OAS for legal affairs. This is the first time that a woman has been appointed to such a high post in that organization. [applause]

In recent months, without forgetting or neglecting our responsibilities to the Andean Pact and to the Central American and Caribbean area, we have been strengthening our ties with Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina. We believe we must reach an overall strategy in Latin American foreign policy. [applause] Our countries have always sought multilateral treatment. [words indistinct] in the face of serious international problems. But the fact is that we have a common denominator of interests and objectives. It is not a matter of forming a bloc or acting in a bloc. We are trying to reach a point of agreement with a realistic attitude, with respect for the [word indistinct] of each country and a disregard for the unrest and tensions of our time. We are not trying to establish a rigid [word indistinct] platform. We must take a new path with determination that will present us with our own personality in the international community and [words indistinct] confrontations with any of the superpowers. It has the objective of strengthening our presence, increasing our capacity to influence and negotiate and of activating Latin American participation in decisionmaking, based on a sovereign and autonomous position not dependent on foreign interests and the strategies of domination of those who seek to maintain and project a bipolar system in the international relations in order to divide the world (?for this purpose).

In conclusion, I want to stress the importance of the visit of our foreign minister to the PRC; the high-level political consultations with Mexico, Brazil and Argentina; and the recent meeting of Venezuelan ambassadors in Central America whose final communique is well-known to Venezuelans.

The goals of the oil policy are national understanding, dissemination, expansion of programs and prospects, and permanent information on its guidelines and development as set forth in the government program. It has been marked by national dialogue. In oil, we have been working with the patriotic sentiment of furthering the nationalization of 1976. Industry is still the most important source of fiscal revenue and foreign exchange but it is being guided so that it will become an effective instrument of national development and international negotiation.

Taking advantage of the termination of the first technological and marketing contracts, we renegotiated them in very different terms, much more advantageous to the nation than the preceding contracts which had been in effect since 1976. We have again undertaken to explore the continental shelf, where we have found important gas deposits, and the Orinoco oil belt, where in 1980 we drilled more than 260 wells, more than all the drilling done in that area in Venezuela's oil history.

We hope to have calculated the hydrocarbon wealth in the area by 1983. We have stated that we view the Orinoco belt as a major national project which requires a mammoth effort to attain the production technology and methods which will improve heavy crudes and marketing. The Mines Ministry and the Petroven Executive Board have been reporting to various sectors on the plans to operate in the belt with a view to incorporating ideas and initiatives deemed to be suitable into the concept of participation that characterizes the work of my administration which [words indistinct] does not shirk its responsibility in decisionmaking. All decisions are inspired by the facts about Venezuela's oil nationalization under the best possible conditions without ever returning to the system of overt or covert concessions. [applause]

The belt will [word indistinct] in the implementation of a full development program not just because it will test our engineers' ability to design and the possibility of establishing a powerful metal and mechanical industry and building major industrial facilities, but because a number of conventions will spring up which will enable the channeling of the wealth produced by petroleum toward the social goal of activating the area's infrastructure, agriculture, livestock and forest activities as well as the urban and cultural transformation of the townships in the belt, thus correcting the deformations and distortions brought about by petroleum in the first stage of its exploitation.

We are ready to incorporate petroleum into regional development. In the case of the belt or of any other oil activity, studies and projects are being conducted which permit the full growth of the area where they are carried out. There are no limits, general principles or mere intentions, but facts. To prove it here is the project for the territorial reorganization of the eastern shore of Maracaibo Lake.

It was necessary to recover valuable volumes of hydrocarbons in the areas of Cabimas, Ciudad Ojeda and Lagunita. This entailed the urgent resettlement of the people who had to be taken out of the exploited areas. We decided to take that step but that is not all. We went to the heart of the matter. The oil industry should become integrated through fruitful and creative activities into the geographic area and the people of the area where it is operating. Now, when ruling a country with a nationalized oil industry offered us this opportunity, we had to seize it. We are seizing it now and will continue to seize it in the future for the good of the country.

One of the most novel aspects of our oil policy is the concept of completeness in foreign trade operations. We know that oil is becoming ever more expensive and scarce. What matters most now is the assurance of supply. Therefore, at this stage we cannot limit ourselves to demanding fair price for our oil, to just exchanging oil for dollars. We are dutybound to require a return investment for the supplies we provide to our customers, such as access to their markets for our industrial items or exported raw materials, commitments to carry out programs in agriculture and livestock development or low-cost housing, or cooperation in a matter as important as mass transportation in the major urban centers.

At OPEC we maintain a unitarian position of solidarity, commonsense and the pursuit of new goals for this organization which has revolutionized international trade. At Venezuela's suggestion, the OPEC news agency is now a reality. It was designed by Venezuelan experts and has a Venezuelan director. The proposal that I made in early 1980 to the Arab nations, Northern Eruope and the Middle East for the creation of an institute of higher learning for Third World students, which will be used to train the manpower needed by the developing countries, was accepted in June during the Algiers conference and in Bali during the December conference, during which the feasibility study made by the OPEC General Secretariat was approved. We hope that on 13 and 14 April when the experts from all the member nations meet, the final proposals will be made to implement this worldwide initiative that we suggested as a unique token of the policy of solidarity and social justice.

Our intention is still firm to give total priority to education, to improve its quality, to increase the facilities and personnel, to modernize its administration and teaching goals and to turn it, along with labor, into the principal means of human and social advancement. It is necessary to make a profound, sustained effort to ensure peace in the schools and to create [words indistinct] among the members of the educational community the advantages of association and joint responsibility, that is, to open the way for active participation and to promote a big national commitment to take education away from the immediate influence of political strife, particularly by the parties. [applause]

No doubt there is constant violence among us which too often tends to interrupt the school year. The ramifications of this have to be followed to the end because there is no doubt that these unpatriotic activities retard the training of children and youth. In addition to the strikes, there are physical attacks on the students of many institutes and on the supplies needed for education. We can see that there are factors for a sort of conspiracy accompanied by a campaign against the presence of the Public Security Corps near the schools. If there is an area in which the country has made unceasing progress, it is in opening the way for and offering options and opportunities for study, so that every day the possibility of getting an education increases in several parts of the country. Everything I am saying here and what the education minister says in a more detailed report points to the fact that it is everybody's responsibility to solve this problem. The government is fully assuming its part of the responsibility.

The armed forces have fully complied with their important role in an open, democratic and civilized society within the concepts of institutional stability, apolitically with loyalty and discipline, respect and obedience for the government, (?full respect) for the people and participation in national development, without neglecting their fundamental mission to defend the nation's integrity, to guarantee the security of our border and to fully exercise sovereignty over our territory.

It has been a fundamental concern to improve and increase the technical ability of the various branches in accordance with the demands of the times, with their technological and scientific advancement.

The process of modernization and the technical equipping of the armed forces call not only for modern equipment, much of it sophisticated, but also for human resources prepared to operate it with ability, aptitude and efficiency so that the equipment can operate in a steady way.

The army, navy, air force and national guard have received special attention in the field of education and technical training at the training institutes and the higher institutes for general staff training, increasingly deserving recognition for their desire to improve.

The process of specialized studies has continued as well as the exchange with international institutes in order to give more strength to the national security and defense programs, which have been modernizing equipment and institutions. Our fleet has been joined by the missile frigate "Antonio Jose de Sucre" and the training sailboat "Simon Bolivar," and in the last few days, the flag was hoisted on the second frigate "Adm Luis [name indistinct]."

These were the first two of the six which should be integrated and operational during the present constitutional term to increase our sea power and to guarantee the vigilance of our extensive Caribbean, Atlantic River and lake coasts.

In order to better protect our border airspace, I inaugurated the new installations of the Gen Rafael Urdaneta Airbase in Maracaibo yesterday, and construction work is advancing on the Apolinar Mendez Airbase in Puerto Ordaz and the Jose Antonio Baez Airbase in Puerto La Cruz.

The armed forces of cooperation have always been ready to achieve the most versatile and [word indistinct] tasks. Their participation in the operation Cedula was decisive.

The headquarters of the national guard have been inaugurated in the west and in the (?south).

We have reestablished a favorable balance of payments after 3 consecutive years of deficit.

As of 1980, the balance of payments shows a surplus of $2,591,000,000 over 11 billion bolivares. This was possible because of a tangible improvement in the nation's exchange terms with foreign countries, and it shows the possibility of improving significantly.

The first reason for this is the increase in petroleum prices, which is external in character and independent of the nation's policy as put into practice.

[Words indistinct] the reduction of imports during 1979 and its limited growth in 1980 are due, in part, to the downward adjustment of the investment programs of the public sector, which call for great quantities of capital goods from abroad.

We are aware that payments made abroad for the purchase of services are still very high as well as the [words indistinct] of travel accounts, the money sent out by immigrants and the capital payments of the companies domiciled in Venezuela.

The important thing is that the country's credit standing increased greatly in 1980.

To the balance of the international reserves in the central bank and the Venezuelan investments fund we must add the additional millions in the hands of Venezuelan petroleum, which elevate Venezuela's external assets in the hands of the public sector to a respectable sum, somewhat greater than one and one half times the total of the long-range external public debt set in 1980.

According to a report of the Central Bank, the total assets of the main financial institutions of the nation increased 15.8 percent; the investments of the commercial bank increased 15.6 percent; mortgages [word indistinct] increased to 19.5 percent and corporation mortgages increased 21.7 percent.

The same source reported that by the end of the year treasury reserves were 12,589,000,000 bolivares, an increase of 2,947,000,000 over last year.

The Central Bank report states further that by the end of the year public debts reached the sum of 60,977,000,000 bolivares, which is 11.9 percent higher than in 1979. (?Because of its obligations) during the year, capital interest amounted to approximately 11,536,000,000 bolivares, a 44.12 percent increase over last year.

According to available information, there is a commitment by the decentralized (banks) amounting, in round figures, to 38 billion and [words indistinct] of 7.7 billion, which should be added to the previous figure when the overall level of the nation's debt is estimated. The Central Bank report shows a smaller debt than I announced in September 1979. [applause]

The regulation on the registration of foreigners and how long they can stay has allowed us to draft a general registry of foreigners in order to establish the true dimensions of the problem of the undocumented persons. The Cedula program was helped to point out to all the countries, and especially the immigrants, the seriousness with which the government is willing to implement a necessary and appropriate regulation reflecting the firmness and generosity of the government.

The fatherland is facing intense hours of political agitation. The impression is that we are devoting too much time to polemics, [word indistinct] and confrontations. The conventions of the parties have brought about the renewal of leadership cadres and nobody discards the possibility of a dialogue or discounts the benefits of a dialogue. My administration favors the initiative for a dialogue proposed by the COPEI Party to the other political forces. [applause] I knew about this proposal before hand. I was consulted on it formally, and I support it because it is beneficial for the people and democracy. This is not a case of neutralizing the opposition or proposing alliances or [words indistinct] criticism. It is a search for an agreement on ideas. If this is agreed upon, good; if we fail, nothing has been lost, not even the time that was gained in human rapprochement.

The political debate is being diversified and prolonged. [words indistinct] However, 27 months and 9 days after my electoral victory, I still think of the same experience gained from the campaign and which I always repeat: A long campaign--such as that which could be launched now--is not good for the opposition or the government. I speak sincerely as usual. The regulation on elections should reduce the period of the campaigns; they should not last longer than 8 months, including the time to determine who will be the candidates. The election campaigns for the renewal of [word indistinct] should not be so short as to benefit the government or so long as to hurt the opposition. We must also try to [words indistinct] certain rules be amicably discussed to establish how much will be given to each party and how these funds will be handled because the electoral campaigns must be basically financed by the state. This will not result in any fiscal sacrifice and even if it did [applause], it would bring about great advantages for democracy and the political parties which support it.

I believe that this is the right time to make this proposal. This should not be left for the last minute when the emergency and the pressure of time will not allow us to think about it with the proper calmness. You, my old friends the legislators, have the last word.

U.S., USSR, CHINA MAY MEET IN NORTH-SOUTH TALKS

PA180428 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] The United States, China and the Soviet Union will perhaps meet in Mexico within the coming months to participate together with 23 other nations in a high-level conference to analyze relations between the industrialized powers and the developing countries. This is an extremely interesting matter.

The possibility of a meeting of these three powers in the North-South conference was hinted at during the weekend when the foreign ministers of the 11 countries organizing the conference made two concessions in order to persuade the United States and the Soviet Union to join the talks.

ARCHBISHOP AGAINST MODERATE STAND OF SALVADORAN

PA171840 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City--MSGR Sergio Mendez Arceo, archbishop of Cuernavaca, has publicly expressed his displeasure at the threat made by Salvadoran Archbishop Arturo Rivera y Damas to close the legal aid office of the archbishopric of San Salvador.

Monsignor Mendez said during Sunday's homily at the cathedral in Cuernavaca that the legal aid office is an outstanding humanitarian organization founded by assassinated Salvadoran Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero. He also expressed displeasure at Monsignor Rivera's recent statement that the Salvadoran church has changed course from the left to the center. It would be sad to see any shift toward the center, as if the Salvadoran people, who admittedly have their disagreements, had veered in that direction, he added.

OFFICIALS CRITICIZE JOHN GAVIN STATEMENTS

FL161411 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2230 GMT 14 Mar 81

[Text] Pachuca, Hidalgo, 14 Mar (NOTIMEX)--Humberto Lugo Gil, national leader of the National Confederation of Popular Organizations (CNOP) said today that statements by the possible U.S. ambassador to Mexico, John Gavin, on Mexico's disastrous agriculture are a bad precedent for his term in office and showed little diplomatic tact.

The CNOP leader made this remark during President Jose Lopez Portillo's tour of Hidalgo State today. Lugo Gil also said that Mr Gavin knows nothing about Mexico and though he might become the U.S. representative, he has no insights about it.

Lugo Gil said that any ambassador, regardless of the country he represents, must, above all, respect the laws of each nation without trying to interfere in the domestic affairs of other states.

On his part, the director of the Government Basic Commodities Company (CONASUPO), Enrique Diaz Ballesteros, said that opinions against the constitutional forms established by a country are inadmissible.

Diaz Ballesteros rejected Gavin's statements--in which the latter questioned the Mexican communal landholding system and described it as the wrong system--because, Diaz Ballesteros said, this is a constitutional landholding form and opinions against it are inadmissible.

PCI'S RUBBI ADDRESSES MEXICAN PARTY CONGRESS

LD171635 Rome L'UNITA in Italian 12 Mar 81 p 17

[Giorgio Oldrini dispatch]

[Excerpt] Mexico City--PCI foreign section chief Comrade Antonio Rubbi yesterday delivered the Italian communists' greetings to the 19th Mexican Communist Party (PCM) Congress. In a climate of great attention, the PCI delegation leader told the congress, among other things, that "it is a source of great satisfaction for us to attend your 19th Congress--the first to take place in complete legality and in the wake of substantial successes." Having pointed out that our prime commitment is to the struggle to defend peace and that in this connection we appreciate the stances adopted by the Mexican Government, Rubbi said that another aspect of our international initiative concerns action of solidarity with the struggling peoples. "From this rostrum," the PCI delegation leader said, "we can ensure the brave Salvadoran patriots of the Italian people's growing and active solidarity. We will support them as we did previously the Nicaraguan fighters."

Rubbi harshly condemned the U.S. policy of interference, blackmail and threatened intervention. "Like our party," the PCI delegation leader said, "your party too has condemned the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and is urging that the Polish crisis be resolved politically by the Poles themselves. But for this very reason," Rubbi concluded, "we believe that we are fully entitled to demand that all the other political forces adopt a stance clearly condemning U.S. imperialism for its menacing plans vis-a-vis El Salvador and its heavy and intolerable pressures and influence on Nicaragua and socialist Cuba."

Concluding his comments on foreign policy, Comrade Rubbi said that "we believe that the liberation and independence of each country can only be carried out by that country's people, without interferences or outside intervention by anyone. Solidarity with and support for these struggles, which is a specific duty for all forces of the international workers movement, must not prejudice each party's and each country's national sovereignty and autonomy." The PCI delegation's greetings message received a warm standing ovation from the congress delegates.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BULGARIA; AMBASSADOR TO ICELAND

FL171418 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0400 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Mexico City, 16 Mar (NOTIMEX)--President Jose Lopez Portillo today sent a congratulatory message to the chairman of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Todor Zhivkov, on the 1,300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian state.

This was made public by the Secretariat of Foreign Relations which reported that the president stated: Mexico shares your nation's joy on this occasion and, therefore, Mr Chairman, please receive and convey to the Government and the noble people of Bulgaria my warmest congratulations on behalf of the people and Government of Mexico.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat also noted that President Jose Lopez Portillo inaugurated the exhibit on Bulgarian medieval art and civilization at the National Anthropology Museum on 3 March as part of our country's activities to commemorate the founding of the Bulgarian state. The exhibit is open until 3 April.

The Foreign Secretariat also reported that the Government of the Republic of Iceland today agreed to the appointment of Francisco Garcia Sancho as Mexico's ambassador. Garcia Sancho previously held this post in Norway.

BELIZE

PREMIER REPORTS TO NATION ON UK-GUATEMALAN PACT

FL170307 Belize City Domestic Service in English 0100 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Premier Price today gave details of the agreement signed in London last week between the governments of the United Kingdom, Guatemala and Belize. Here is the statement made by Premier Price:

[Begin recording] [Words indistinct] Belize. We have reached a significant milestone in the history of the Anglo-Guatemalan dispute. On Wednesday morning, the 11th of March 1981, I joined Minister Nicholas Ridley of the United Kingdom and Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez of Guatemala and finally an agreement setting out a framework within which the long-standing dispute over our Belizean territory between these two nations may be honorably and finally settled.

This agreement represents a major step forward. It is not in itself a full and final settlement of the dispute, but it marks the beginning of a process by which a settlement can be reached. It sets out a series of headings or subjects for further negotiations which provide for the appointment of a commission comprising the United Kingdom, Guatemala and Belize to continue negotiations. It specifies that upon reaching agreements on all the details of these subjects. Those agreements will be put together as treaties and, most important of all, the text of these treaties would amount to a full and final settlement of Guatemala's claims to our territory.

To put this in another (?way), we have agreed on a list of items which is enough to allow Guatemala to drop her claims to Belize forever. While the details of these items under the [words indistinct] must be further negotiated. The list limits the number of subjects for further discussions. No new items may be raised, discussed or negotiated. This is good for Belize [passage indistinct] Guatemala will be able to respect the territorial integrity of Belize and that there will be no land cession of Belize. That Guatemala will be able to respect the sovereignty of Belize and to acknowledge that Belizeans are the full and rightful owners of all their territory. Therefore, it is agreed by all the parties that Belize can now proceed to independence and that Guatemala will accept and respect the independent state of Belize within its traditional boundaries without a quarrel and without a war. In reaching this agreement, your government was able to protect all the basic and fundamental rights of the Belizean people.

Let us look more closely at what the document of [word indistinct] of agreements says. The first (?text) of agreement says that the United Kingdom and Guatemala shall recognize the independent state of Belize as an integral part of Central America and will respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity in accordance with its existing and traditional boundaries.

Now that the London agreement has been signed, Belize can move forward, without hostility or opposition from the Guatemalan Government, to the constitutional conference. In making this report, I have deliberately emphasized the benefits which Guatemala can expect from the agreement, against which Belize is free from [word indistinct] and threats arising out of Guatemala's territorial claims. Belize has gained its overwhelming objectives while protecting all the basic rights of the Belizean people, and while adhering fully to the United Nations resolutions that protect our sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Apart from all this, when we go to London in a few weeks time, the security arrangements to which the United Kingdom has committed itself will be defined to guarantee the safety and security of Belize.

History will be ours if we strengthen our resolve with each step forward. For these just objectives, we continue to pray daily in our national prayer that God, almighty and eternal, protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country, and that he assist our Belizean Government and people with his holy spirit of counsel and fortitude, that we may go forward with the new and progressive Belizean revolution and win for all Belizeans peace and national happiness as we keep watch with the angels, the stars and the moon, for freedom comes with tomorrow's [word indistinct]. [end recording]

UK TO MAINTAIN MILITARY PRESENCE IN BELIZE

LD171317 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 17 Mar 81 p 4

[Frank Taylor dispatch: "Security Problem"]

[Text] Belize--Britain will be asked to maintain a military presence in Belize after independence later this year, Mr Vernon Courtenay, minister of state in the Belize Government told me yesterday.

"The security of the region would demand that Britain not withdraw entirely and the other countries of Central America would also like to know that their eastern shoreline is guaranteed by the British," he said. He continued: "A weak and defenceless Belize would open up an avenue for Cuban adventurism into the region."

The troops, backed by helicopters, missiles and Harrier jump-jets, have been on battle alert along the Belize-Guatemalan began massing for an apparent onslaught four years ago. [sentence as published]

It is clear that the Belize defense force, which at the moment consists of one regular company and two volunteer companies, could not defend the country in the event of a Guatemalan attack.

But Mr Courtenay, a member of the negotiating team in the three-way talks, was quite clear that the security of Belize should be seen in a regional context, in much the same way as the Reagan administration in Washington regard the events in El Salvador.

YOUTHS PROTEST AGREEMENT WITH GUATEMALA, UK

PA180353 Paris AFP in Spanish 0257 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] Belize City, 17 Mar (AFP)--Around 500 youths today staged disorders here to protest the agreement signed by Prime Minister George Price and the representatives of Guatemala and Great Britain, an agreement which they consider to be "treacherous."

At Central Park, where the demonstration was being held, antiriot police used tear gas to disperse the youths and arrested three persons. It was unofficially reported that two of them were reporters.

The demonstrators shouted slogans against Price, whom they said had committed treason for having made territorial concessions to Guatemala.

The agreement among Guatemala, Great Britain and Belize, however, does not give Guatemala any portion of land, although it does grant Guatemala a continental shelf on the Atlantic and some other benefits.

Meanwhile, at a special ceremony in Belmopan, the Belizean capital, Prime Minister George Price received from the foreign ministers of several Caribbean countries the "unconditional support" of those countries for Belize's independence cause.

Prime Minister Price affirmed that "independent Belize's relations will be cordial with all the countries of the world, without regard for their ideology." Price voiced confidence regarding the territory's future, pointing out that its economy will be robust enough to allow the development of a new nation at the moment of independence.

Aside from the incidents reported in Belize City today, the rest of the nation is calm and people are preparing to wait for definite independence which they hope will come this same year.

COSTA RICA

U.S. EMBASSY CAR, DOWNTOWN BUILDINGS ATTACKED

Embassy Car Attacked

PA171400 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1333 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] [in progress]....Attention. There is a special call from the authorities to the public to see if they can help locate the terrorists. The public should report if they see a red Volkswagon, license plate 59953, apparently a station wagon.

The bomb was apparently thrown from that vehicle at an automobile owned by a U.S. Embassy official. The vehicle is going south to the capital, said Colonel Sanchez Monestal, director general of the Civil Guard. This is an information for the public so they will immediately report to the authorities at telephone number 222505 if they see this vehicle.

The bomb that exploded in a car owned by a U.S. Embassy official in the capital was thrown from the red Volkswagon. We do not have official reports on the three persons that reportedly were injured. There were also reports that one person was killed as a result of the attack. However, this has not been officially confirmed. The Judicial Investigations Organization [OIJ] has arrived at the site of the incident to carry out the initial investigations.

Therefore, attention residents of southern Costa Rica. If you see a red Volkswagon station wagon, license plate 59953, you can notify the authorities at telephone number 222505.

Attention. Here is our mobile unit in Los Yoses with Fernando Escobar giving more details on this attack. Go ahead, Fernando Escobar:

[Escobar] It has completely lost its original color. It doesn't have any paint at all. Glass is everywhere. The inside of the vehicle completely burned. The vehicle's license plate is MD03.81. We can also see that there some fragments of grenades near the site of the attack. We have also learned from the witnesses that one of the officials was seriously wounded. He was taken in very serious condition to the San Juan de Dios Hospital to be quickly treated.

We report that the vehicle that was attacked was a small light-blue van. As result of the explosion the vehicle completely burned. The license plate is MD13.81. [number as heard] It is a U.S. Embassy vehicle. These are the initial reports here at the site of the incident here in the Los Yoses neighborhood behind the Fatima Church. We will have more information later.

[Announcer] We will try to get in touch with the authorities and the San Juan de Dios hospital to find out the condition of the people that have been transferred to the hospital as a result of the attack that occured a few minutes ago behind the Fatima Church in the Los Yoses neighborhood of San Jose. A bomb was thrown from a moving vehicle with license plate 59953 at a vehicle with diplomatic license plate which belongs to a U.S. Embassy official.

The authorities are closing roads in various parts of the metropolitan area, particularly to the south where there are reports that the people aboard the vehicle are fleeing. Initially the vehicle was said to be a Volkswagen but now some people have said it was a red Datsun station wagon. This is our report up to now. We will have further reports later.

Injured Hospitalized

PA171423 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1357 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Omar Galvez Gonzalez report from the emergency room of the San Juan de Dios Hospital--live]

[Text] We are broadcasting from the San Juan de Dios Hospital. Four injured persons have been brought in from Los Yoses. One is seriously injured. He is Stephen Garcia, 23, who is very seriously injured. According to medical authorities and to Inspector Sergeant Hidalgo Camacho, who gave us the information and the name of the injured, Garcia is very seriously injured.

Also receiving treatment from the doctors and the nursing staff of San Juan de Dios Hospital is Jerome Walters, 21; we were told that his condition is fair. Finally, one person was slightly injured. He is John E. Roberts, 33. [as heard] His injuries are slight.

The three patients were in the diplomatic car, with license plate MD 1381, in the area around the Los Yoses Hermitage.

We were also informed that a pedestrian, Vesalio Gomez Acuna, who was passing by the automobile, was also slightly injured

Another Explosion Reported

PA171432 San Jose Radio Columbia in Spanish 1420 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Another explosion has been reported in downtown San Jose. Another bomb was set off in Galeria Musical Building on 2d Street. Another explosive device was set off there. It was not heard with as loud an explosion as the one in Los Yoses. The explosion has just occurred here in the heart of San Jose on 2d Avenue and 2d Street. According to the authorities, there are no casualties. Radio patrolcars have surrounded the area. They are investigating the attacks.

They apparently were synchronized, first in a neighborhood on the outskirts of San Jose and then in the heart of the city. It seems to be a well-planned attack. For the time being these attacks are being attributed to leftist extremists according to the reports of the authorities; however, this has not been confirmed yet.

Honduran Embassy Bombed

PA171459 San Jose Radio Colombia in Spanish 1434 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Authorities report that they have received an anonymous call that there is another bomb near the Central Movie Theatre near where an explosion has occurred. The authorities are investigating.

The authorities call this the morning of the terrorist bombs. Never before had such actions occurred in our country. These events come only a few hours after the authorization was granted for U.S. warships to land in our ports after discussions between the executive and legislative branches. Here is Nelson Brenes with more information:

[Brenes] The second explosion at approximately at 0814 occurred in the Honduran Embassy. We have been told that the Honduran Embassy is located where the device was set off. This means that the attacks have been against two diplomatic missions.

Presidential Palace Evacuated

PA171511 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1449 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpt] The situation is becoming more complicated. Peace in the country is being seriously threatened, not just by deeds, but primarily verbally, because anonymous calls are proliferating. At this moment, the staff of the presidential palace is being evacuated. Information has been received to the effect that a bomb will also explode in the presidential palace, El Zapote, itself.

As was reported by William Cespedes, President Rodrigo Carazo is on his way to Guanacaste to participate in an official event.

We repeat that at this time, the presidential palace staff is being evacuated while the authorities, especially members of the national security force, are proceeding to carry out an inspection because a bomb will reportedly explode at any time in the presidential palace.

Attackers' Car Found

PA171728 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1546 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Fernando Escobar report from the presidential house]

[Excerpt] The investigative bodies are already working on the two attacks carried out today, one in Los Yoses and the other in downtown San Jose, in the Galeria Musical building.

In connection with the first case, the attack carried out against a diplomatic vehicle owned by the U.S. Embassy, the car in which the individuals who fired the explosive allegedly escaped has already been found.

OFFICIAL SECTORS CONDEMN ATTACK ON EMBASSY CAR

Carazo Condemnation

PA171438 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1426 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Here is a statement by Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo regarding the terrorist attack against a U.S. Embassy vehicle today. Right now President Carazo is leaving for Canas, Guanacaste to inaugurate the Magdalena Dam as part of the irrigation program. He was interviewed by newsmen regarding the terrorist action. He said:

[Begin recording] I greatly regret that Costa Rica has been witness and victim of that terrorist action. Terrorism is a cowardly act and shows lack of weak [words indistinct]. I condemn it and will do everything possible to discover those responsible. Law must reign. To this effect, I have coordinated actions with Security Minister Arnulfo Carmona. [end recording]

This was President Rodrigo Carazo's statement on the terrorist action against a U.S. Embassy vehicle in which three members of the Marines who guard the embassy were travelling. The U.S. Embassy vehicle was apparently attacked by a bazooka from a distance of some 50 meters.

Foreign Ministry Communique

PA171907 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1818 GMT 17 Mar 81

[17 March press communique issued by Foreign Minster Bernd Niehaus--read by announcer Omar Galvez from the Foreign Ministry]

[Text] The government of the republic [interruption from studio] terrorist attacks perpetrated today which affected three officials of the U.S. Embassy in Costa Rica. and a citizen of [interruption from studio] harming the embassy of the brother [break in transmission] feelings of solidarity and pain over the incidents that have occurred.

For Costa Rica, a country that loves peace and respects the fundamental human rights. these actions are a grave affront to its national dignity and the traditional values of its people.

The Costa Rican people and government forcefully condemn these terrorist actions, which are an attack on the nation's institutions and integrity.

The government of the republic issues a fervent call to all Costa Ricans and the foreigners who are enjoying our hospitality to ask them not to allow, under any circumstances, Costa Rica to get caught up in the bloody wave of terrorism that is affecting other fraternal countries.

Peace, freedom, democracy and unrestricted respect for the fundamental human rights continue to be the guidelines of the future of our people and our fatherland.

Niehaus Remarks

PA170213 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] I never imagined that as a foreign minister I would have to call an ambassador to express our sorrow and solidarity over a terrorist incident like the one today involving the attack on the U.S. Embassy vehicle, Foreign Minister Bernd Niehaus told the press.

The foreign minister said this afternoon that he never thought he would have to express sorrow and solidarity over terrorist actions of this nature which are difficult to believe here in Costa Rica. He added that he hopes it has been an isolated incident and that in no way is it the beginning of terrorism in this country.

In reply to newsmen, the foreign minister said that notwithstanding the disagreeable experience of a terrorist attack, such as this morning's, there is no reason to change our international policy because of terrorist pressure. The country's foreign policy will continue without changes because, as he said, it is appreciated by all ideological groups regardless of their leanings because it is an objective policy based on respect for the fundamental rights of man. Therefore, he said, we believe that our foreign policy must be respected.

TERRORIST COMMANDO CLAIMS CREDIT FOR BOMBINGS

PA171940 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] A few minutes ago we received an anonymous call in the editorial room, telling us to go pick up a communique released by the group that planted the terrorist bombs that exploded this morning in a U.S. Embassy vehicle and at the Honduran Embassy and Consulate.

We were told to go to the National Museum, where in urn No 5 in the Indian Room we would find an envelope for us. We have just returned from the museum, which is located one block from this radio station.

At the museum we found a white envelope addressed to us; inside there were four or five sheets of paper--four pages exactly--containing a lengthy communique addressed to the Costa Rican, Salvadoran and other Latin American peoples.

The communique's final passage reads: Stop Yankee intervention in El Salvador, long live the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, long live the Revolutionary Democratic Front, for a democratic and revolutionary government in El Salvador, with weapons in hands the Salvadoran people will overcome, for the construction of the political-military organization vanguard of the Costa Rican People. [Signed] Commander Carlos Aguero Echeverria Command.

The document was evidently printed on a manual [word indistinct]. Several copies were apparently made; the ink still feels fresh.

The document begins this way: The Commander Carlos Aguero Echeverria Command announces that on Tuesday morning, 17 March 1981, it carried out the revolutionary operation with weapons in hand. The Salvadoran people will overcome. This operation consisted of the explosion of two powerful bombs, one in a vehicle used to transport Yankee marines and the other in the Honduran Embassy offices.

The purposes of this operation are:

1. To express our solidarity with the sister Salvadoran people's struggle for definitive liberation.

2. To denounce:

A. The criminal war currently being fought against the people by the Salvadoran oligarchy, the military-Christian Democratic junta and Yankee imperialism;

B. The open intervention of Yankee imperialism;

C. The complicity in and support for the war currently geing fought against the Salvadoran people by the Governments of Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and Venezuela.

3. To urge our people:

A. To redouble their solidarity with the peoples who are fighting for their liberation.

B. To find the necessary course in order to advance along the path of revolution.

A popular war deeply rooted in the people's history is currently being fought in El Salvador. First, it was the Indians' rebellion against the Spanish yoke, [announcer] and so forth. Here they provide a lengthy review of the revolutionary process.

Further on, they say: We denounce the genocide carried out against the Salvadoran people. We denounce the participation of the Governments of Honduras and Guatemala in the repression against the Salvadoran people and in the air and land raids. We also denounce the complicity of the Governments of Venezuela and Costa Rica.

The command then adds: In Costa Rica, the repressive bodies repress all our signs of solidarity with the Salvadoran people.

Page 3 of the communique released by those who claim credit for planting the terrorist bomb in the U.S. Embassy car and in the Honduran Embassy and Consulate reads:

Appeal to the Costa Rican people:

The Costa Rican people must also prepare to face difficult moments. The Costa Rican bourgeoisie is in the worst economic crisis of its history and is trying by all means to make this crisis fall on the shoulders of the people.

Thus, today we are being subjected to uncontrolled hikes in the prices of fuels, electrical energy, bus fares, medicines, and so forth. In view of the possibility that popular protests might be staged, the government is preparing clubs, tear gas and [words indistinct] to repress these protests.

There is talk about a possible coup and the bourgeois parties are preparing to once again deceive the people and keep them from organizing and fighting for their just demands.

Today Central America is an erupting volcano: the general offensive in El Salvador, the increasing popular struggles in Guatemala, the awakening of the Honduran masses, the Nicaraguan people's struggle to consolidate their revolution and curb the counterrevolution and the expansion of the political, social and economic crises in our country.

Within this framework, we urge our people to openly and determinedly support our Central American brothers' struggle, particularly the heroic fight of the Salvadoran people.

We urge our people to demand that the government break relations with and put an end to all forms of aid for the military-Christian Democratic junta. Our people must also demand an end to the persecution and repression of the demonstrations of solidarity and of the Salvadoran refugees.

We urge our people not to remain silent any longer and to raise their voices, their fists, their machetes and their rifles to fight with determination in order to establish a truly just society.

The Commander Carlos Aguero Echeverria Command is named after a heroic Costa Rican internationalist combatant who reached the highest directorate ranks within the Sandinist National Liberation Front and gave his life during the struggle for the liberation of the sister Nicaraguan people. Commander Carlos Aguero Echeverria is the expression of the purest internationalist and revolutionary feelings of our people, the lengthy communique says in conclusion. The document is obviously of a Marxist tendency.

VARIOUS GROUPS COMMENT, DENY COMPLICITY IN BOMBINGS

Leftists Deny Involvement

PA171520 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1453 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Denying statements or comments made in various circles, the Costa Rican left has emphatically denied that it is involved in the terrorist acts this morning. On the one hand, former Deputy Arnulfo Ferreto, a top leader of the Communist Party of Costa Rica, and now Mario Devandas have said that the left, the native communists, are not at all to blame for the aforementioned acts.

PVP Issues Communique

PA171528 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1511 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The Popular Vanguard Party [PVP], Costa Rica's traditional communist party, today issued an official communique on the terrorist attacks on the U.S. Embassy vehicle and the Honduran Embassy in San Jose. PVP leader Eduardo Mora Valverde will read the official PVP communique:

[Begin recording] The PWP energetically condemns the terrorist attack today against U.S. Embassy officials. It also charges that such acts benefit only the extreme rightist forces interested in dragging our country to a climate of violence that would enable them to eradicate the democratic system in which we live.

We categorically reject the gross maneuver of those who have sought to link this attack to our firm opposition to the presence of U.S. warships in our country. We have fought the presence of U.S. warships and troops through all legal means and we will continue to fight against it through the means that the constitution and the laws guarantee to all Costa Ricans.

The public is witness to the fact that we have adhered to legal methods. For 50 years, our party has never resorted to terrorism as a means of struggle. All our people knows this. [end recording]

MCRL Blames Communists

PA171914 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] The Free Costa Rican Movement [MCRL] has accused the communists. MCRL President Bernal Urbina Pinto has referred to today's terrorist attacks:

[Begin recording] Although many don't like us to say it and have accused us of being reactionaries and rightists and other terms used by the Marxists and others who play their game, the MCRL has been warning about this for many years. In the past few weeks we have been alerting the public, telling the people that the members of the Communist Party in Costa Rica and the officials of Radio Noticias del Continente were threatening to disrupt order in Costa Rica, despite the fact that they are foreigners.

What has occurred today against U.S. Embassy officials and the subsequent attack on the Honduran Embassy are part of a plan to destabilize our democracy. This is also the result of the real weakness of the Costa Rican Government that has permitted this bunch of bandits and terrorists to openly work in Costa Rica, threatening peace and Costa Rica's political, social and economic system.

If the government doesn't assume a position in defense of peace in our country, the citizens must be prepared so that the Costa Ricans themselves will be the ones who will go into the street to bring order to Costa Rica. This cannot continue like this. Today it was the U.S. Embassy. Many Costa Rican children going to school could have died in that attack. Those responsible did not think that Costa Ricans or children going to school could have been killed with the bomb or the device that hit the vehicle with the young men. [end recording]

Station Condemns Attack

PA172248 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The terrorist bomb that destroyed a U.S. Embassy vehicle this morning is the result of what is happening in other parts of the world. Costa Rica has not escaped international terrorism. Costa Rica has not escaped the guerrilla threat affecting El Salvador, Guatemala and other countries today.

What is worse, we Costa Ricans remain indifferent, as if this could never happen to us. We have also accepted and tolerated the penetration of guerrilla leaders who have assumed positions of leadership and control.

The terrorist bomb that destroyed the U.S. Embassy car is criminal from any point of view and obviously of Marxist origin. There are Marxist groups which, despite their leaders' denials, are determined to create a state of violence in the country. The attitude of the deputies in congress and the manner in which labor leaders have acted during recent strikes using weapons and snipers in Limon are all signs that Marxism in this country is preparing for a dangerous period of destabilization.

In Costa Rica there are organized groups from the extreme right and left. There is a systematic and constant campaign by groups organizing daily in an increasingly dangerous fashion, provoking each other and leading us rapidly to a confrontation.

We have seen with great concern how the government is losing authority, how the so-called National Reserve has been organized. The dangerous publicity being given to the conflicts among the leading classes is the clearest evidence of the increasing violence in Costa Rica. We must stop and realize that we are approaching a state of violence.

We condemn the criminal attack on a U.S. Embassy vehicle today. We condemn it as a terrorist and political act. We condemn a bomb placed in a private business. This is also the result of the determination to attack the country's leading classes. It is evident that the Marxists are determined to attack businessmen and businesses and those diplomats whom they have accused of interfering in international politics. Now, faced with the failure of the Salvadoran guerrillas due to the massive intervention of the peoples, their situation is precarious.

Terrorism and the illegal trafficking of weapons has become a business which serves those who profit from war, misery and the pain and sorrow of others. We have seen terrorism, which began as a civic cause as in the Basque countries. Today the Basque Fatherland and Liberty organization is trapped in a situation from which it cannot escape; it is without cause, law or God.

Terrorism in El Salvador is also the product of extremist groups which do not seek to solve social problems but to seize power by violent means. Today Costa Rica has had the first warning of what will come if it does not assume well-defined and decisive attitudes.

We urgently appeal to all Costa Ricans, from all groups and parties. We do not want Costa Rica to become the arena for international terrorism. We urge all Costa Ricans not to participate in violence and to protect our system of peace and freedom. There are those interested in altering our legal situation. All Costa Ricans, without creating a repressive army, must join the defense of the nation's most valued interests. Let us, ourselves, become the great army that will halt terrorism, violence and chaos in our society.

POLICE MOUNT INVESTIGATION; NO ARRESTS MADE

PA180253 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Text] A police official said today that many persons have been questioned for various reasons. However, no arrests have been made nor are there any suspects, though many raids have been carried out with the respective search warrants as part of the investigation of the terrorist attacks this morning.

This led to an outraged protest from the Costa Rican Socialist Party, whose offices were raided. Judicial branch officials said that this was done following orders and that the office did not have a sign identifying it as a political party office.

Foreigners have been warned that if they are found guilty of terrorism, they will be punished to the full extent of the law and later deported.

Some years ago terrorists were arrested and 4 months later freed, the security minister said, but this will not happen again. Those found guilty will remain in prison.

A thorough review of all foreigners in the country listed as political refugees or exiles will be made to determine if they should stay in the country, the security minister said.

STATION NOTES CONFUSION ON U.S. WARSHIPS ISSUE

PA172018 San Jose Cadena Internacional de Solidaridad in Spanish 0530 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Via Managua Radio Sandino]

[Text] Despite the fact that President Rodrigo Carazo Odio declared on Saturday that the U.S. warships--missile cruiser U.S.S. Josephus Daniels and freighter U.S.S. Spiegel Grover--had the executive branch's permission to arrive in national ports, the Government Council revoked this authorization a few hours later, indicating that this permission should have been approved by the Costa Rican congress.

The announcement concerning the presence of U.S. warships in Costa Rica has stirred a big national controversy the past few days. The controversy began with a lengthy debate at the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, which ended without the necessary permit being approved. Under the constitution, this permit must be granted by that branch of the government.

Nonetheless, and despite the fact that the U.S. Embassy in this capital had issued a document announcing its decision to suspend the ships' visit, President Carazo unexpectedly announced on Saturday that the executive branch had authorized the ships to enter the Port of Limon on Sunday. According to the president, the congress was already studying the request and its function was to carry out the necessary procedures in order to abide by the constitutional precept.

However, the Government Council revoked this decision a few hours later, ruling that the permission had to be approved by the Legislative Assembly, which does not meet until today.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Embassy, which had sped up preparations to receive the visitors in Limon upon learning of Carazo's announcement, once again saw its plans frustrated, since the Reagan government's ships had to resign themselves to remaining under the hot sun of the high seas.

In any event, opposition to the suspicious presence of the U.S. warships had elicited the total and absolute repudiation of many of the country's unions. Several unions of workers, teachers, hospital workers and the like asked their branch organizations to mobilize if the unpleasant visitors arrived.

For his part, the president of the republic seems to have come to a very bad end, what with the decision by his companions within the Government Council, which led to sending a telegram to the media yesterday in an effort to explain this delicate situation.

The president reaffirmed the executive branch's decision to permit the arrival of the U.S. ships and denounced what he described as the parliamentary sabotage carried out by three legislators. Nonetheless, Carazo expressed the hope that the legislative body would approve the authorization today.

In addition to the request to authorize the arrival of thses ships, there are two other requests to authorize the arrival of four planes and six helicopters that would fly over Costa Rica and land here.

The Foreign Ministry also issued a communique yesterday denying that the Government Council had revoked the permission announced by President Carazo. The communique added that it is the purview of the congress to grant such authorization.

The U.S. Embassy in this capital, which on two occasions has had to suspend its preparations, once again had to reverse its instructions to Reagan's ships, which will reportedly now head south.

A heated and legnthy debate is expected this afternoon in congress where many legislators unblushingly feel that what has happened there is an insult to those whom they describe as visiting friends.

Reagan's plans to send warships to strengthen friendship have sustained a new setback in this small part of the Central American isthmus, where they have been repudiated and totally opposed by the Costa Rican unions and by three deputies who have won the game so far.

EL SALVADOR

U.S. EMBASSY ATTACKED; NO ONE INJURED

PA171926 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1916 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] San Salvador, 17 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Several unidentified individuals today opened fire on the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador. There were no casualties. The unidentified individuals, who were in a pickup, fired directly at the office of the ambassador, on the third floor of the embassy. The attack occurred some 10 minutes after a news conference by U.S. Democratic Congressman Clarence D. Long.

FURTHER DETAILS OF 13 MAR DUARTE PRESS CONFERENCE

PA172350 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 16 Mar 81

["Excerpt" of news conference held by Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the revolutionary government Junta, at the Presidential House on 13 March--recorded; for earlier reporting, see pages P 6-10 of the 16 March Latin America DAILY REPORT]

[Text] [Question] Roberto Morton, NEWS WORLD from New York. [words indistinct]

[Answer] Regarding the question about whether the United States is exerting a [word indistinct] influence, I would say that I have already explained this by means of an example that I tried to give to show that there is a limit to the amount of aid that can be given, as there is a point at which it stops being aid and actually becomes intervention. Then there is the opposite: intervention can also occur in the form of no aid, because nothing is being done.

In other words, the eastern countries--Russia, Cuba, and all the other countries under the control of the Eastern powers--have sought to seize power in various parts of the world. They tried to do this in Europe immediately after the war, when they seized Hungary, Czechoslovakia and many other countries. They also tried to do this in Africa, and today there are Cuban soldiers in Africa. They tried to do it in Asia and now there is Vietnam, Cambodia and all those countries. Of course, they have also tried to do this in Latin America. There are the attempts made in Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay, Colombia; their current efforts in Peru; and their past efforts in Panama and Guatemala. Finally, they have also tested the Caribbean area; Suriname, Cuba, Grenada and Jamaica. In all these places they have experimented with seizing power.

So it is not strange that their world strategy calls for the East seizing power through external actions aimed at intensifying internal domestic problems in order to provoke reactions that enable them to seize power. This is the international geopolitical strategy followed by the Eastern world, logically led by Russia.

Now, I was giving an example of what might happen in a country as small as ours. If we shove a wheel, it may turn two or three more times and then it will fall. But if we continue pushing and pushing it, it will gain greater velocity. If we lead it toward a downward slope, its acceleration will be even greater. At a given moment its acceleration will be such that it will no longer need to be pushed and it will be able to go on by itself. This was the theory that the extreme leftist gentlemen and the (?leaders) in Russia, Cuba and the other countries under communist influence tried to launch.

Now, how can this be stopped? First, it can be stopped by removing the hand of the one who wants to continue pushing the wheel. So the first thing that one has to do is tell Russia to stop pushing, to tell Cuba to stop pushing, to tell Nicaragua to stop letting its territory be used to send weapons. In other words, stop the ones who promote this process of acceleration by the country's extreme left.

Once this external problem--which has nothing to do with our domestic problems--is resolved, we must create the elements that will bring about a process of internal slowing down of this imaginary wheel. This is what we want to do through the pacification process and all the internal [word indistinct] we have been able to bring about over the past year.

In other words, our strategy is to try to bring about an internal slowing-down process. However, we cannot do this if elements from abroad are accelerating the process.

For this simple reason I think that the policy of democratic countries and of the Western world in general should be to demand that the process of external intervention that leads to an acceleration of the internal development of each country be prevented.

But this action of stopping external acceleration by removing the hand of the one pushing also has its risks. There is the danger that instead of slowing down, there may be even greater acceleration, and that is dangerous. So the country--we, the government--is requesting aid, but under such conditions that there will be merely a slowing-down process, not a process of acceleration, because this would amount to intervention as bad as the other. This is why we have said that we do not believe in the arrival of U.S. troops, soldiers or marines because this would represent the very opposite of a (?suitable slowing-down process. I think this explains graphically the current world stand on El Salvador.

[Question] Francisco (Hardy), EL PUEBLO from Brazil. Mr President, when the rebels launched their offensive in January, it is announced that they numbered only about 2,000. At a news conference last Wednesday, Colonel Garcia affirmed that 2,200 of them have been killed while 1,500 others reportedly showed up to [word indistinct] the amnesty. So there we already have a total of 3,700 rebels. But all this is of secondary importance. The fight is still going on. Dozens of them die every day. Is something being done to put an end to this slaughter? Do you think that [words indistinct] another general offensive?

[Answer] I think that your data have not been provided by this country's government. I do not know where you obtained your figures, but this government has never provided figures about the number of guerrillas in this country. So it is not true that we have said that there are 2,000 guerrillas. Perhaps at times we interpret things subjectively, but that is still a mere interpretation.

Now, what I will tell you is that the country's extreme left used to say--and they, not us, were the ones saying this in those documents that have been published--that they had about 3,000 trained guerrillas and 28,000 militiamen. This amounts to about 30,000 individuals available. They also claimed that they had an additional 200,000 persons who constituted their mass forces, whom they would also turn into militiamen and eventually into guerrillas. I am talking about June last year, so we do not know at this point how many have been promoted from militiamen to guerrillas. Just the same, these figures are way above the ones you just mentioned. So this alone would suffice to say that your data are incorrect.

Now, why has violence continued? Violence has not continued because the people want it; the people do not want violence. Violence has continued because there are sectors that want violence. They are the ones that do not want this government to reach a peaceful solution for this country's problems. Those leftist sectors arrived at a (?cardboard factory) carrying weapons and machineguns. When the workers begged them and even pleaded with them: Please do not burn this factory. We work here. A man told them: I do not care about that. I must finish all this. And he set fire to the entire factory.

They are the ones creating violence. Those who wait for the buses in order to set fire to them and to kill the drivers are the ones who do not want peace in this country. Those who set up watch posts along the roads to see who goes by in order to kill them are the ones who do not want peace in this country. In short, they are members of either the extreme right or the extreme left--it is not important which side they are on--who do not want peace. They are the ones creating violence.

We are making a huge effort to bring about pacification, and I think we have achieved something important: the great majority of the people are shifting to a position that is contrary to violence. They are isolating the violent sectors. This is why, when the extreme left called for a strike, when it called for insurrection, people did not respond to them. Why? Because people do not want violence. This is evident; you can see it every day. Go out on the streets and you will see that the people are working. The guerrillas come around every now and then and fire a few shots, the people hide someplace and after a while they go on working. Why? Because the people want to work, the people do not want violence.

So the government is making an effort, it is interpreting the feelings of the people and it is making an effort to put an end to this violence.

How long is violence going to last? May God illuminate all those who do not understand that one does not achieve anything by killing. May God illuminate them in order to make them reflect. This is why we are opening the doors and creating possibilities for these people to reintegrate themselves. This is why we have announced an amnesty. But you have seen how they mock the amnesty, because they do not want it, because they want to go on killing people. So, this does not depend on us alone; it also depends on others, and they do not want peace. They want violence.

FDR'S UNGO CRITICIZES JUNTA, FAVORS MEDIATION

LD160921 Rome AVANTI in Italian 8-9 Mar 81 pp 1, 24

["F.G." undated interview in Rome with Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front President Guillermo Ungo: "Mediation Possible for El Salvador"]

[Text] Guillermo Ungo, president of the Salvadoran Revolutionary Democratic Front (an organization which belongs to the Socialist International) has been in Rome for the past few days as guest of the Italian Socialist Party [PSI]. Last November, during a lengthy conversation with Bettino Craxi at the International's congress in Madrid, Ungo was invited to visit Rome.

His visit, originally scheduled for December, was postponed several times due to the situation in the Central American country, but at last it has taken place. Ungo, who for some months has been president of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (the organization which unites the movements opposing the governing junta), spoke at length with Craxi about the situation in El Salvador and has also had meetings with representatives of other Italian political forces. Yesterday morning he was received by Foreign Minister Colombo.

We met with him at PSI Directorate headquarters and he kindly agreed to grant the following exclusive interview to our newspaper:

[Question] What is the present situation in El Salvador? What are the country's most pressing problems?

[Answer] From a national viewpoint the situation in El Salvador is fairly positive and favorable for the development of the democratic forces, and it is for this very reason that it is becoming very difficult to place the Salvadoran framework within an international context characterized by growing U.S. political, economic and military involvement. In fact the present junta's continuing hold on power can be explained by the increasing U.S. backing: It is a fairly clear indication of the junta's moribund state; it is like a dying man who needs more and more transfusions of economic and military aid. This is not an indication of good health--quite the contrary.

This situation has increasingly highlighted the falsity of the junta's attempt to proclaim itself centrist, when its real character is repressive and based on a militarist rationale which manipulates the paramilitary gangs, the security forces and the army, which is controlled by fascist forces. Moreover, it has also become apparent that the people's response is strong and on a large scale and that they are not submitting to this militarist rationale.

[Question] What is your assessment of the results of the January guerrilla offensive?

[Answer] First it must be remembered that it was approached as a general offensive--two new terms in a war situation that has been dragging on for over a year. New terms, both as an offensive and as a general offensive. First this definition shows a qualitative and quantitative advance in the insurrectionary struggle by the people's revolutionary army, inasmuch as initially the government army was on the offensive--but with disastrous results, since it failed to achieve the objective of destroying the major part of the people's revolutionary strength. Second, it was the revolutionary force which took the initiative, thus forcing the government army to adopt a defensive stance.

It was a general offensive because it became a military revolutionary action at a local level in every region of the country, thus gaining real recognition of a situation that had existed for almost a year but which the junta refused to acknowledge, namely, a real war situation in the country, in which two armies--the government's and the people's--are fighting. In this situation the result was such that the junta was forced to resort to an operation of press manipulation, which raised expectations higher than originally envisaged by the popular forces. It was thought that a political crisis as profound as El Salvador's could be resolved in a single-day battle, exclusively in the military field, like in the movies.

Politically, the government and media described this offensive as a defeat for the revolutionary forces, whereas in fact it was a qualitative leap forward. The fact that we were dealt 100 blows cannot be described as a defeat: we in turn dealt 200. The war front, its bases of support and the rearguard were strengthened, with very few losses. The offensive also demonstrated the weakness of the Salvadoran Army which, as such, could not, and had not the capacity to, destroy the revolutionary forces.

This demonstration of weakness prompted a change in the attitude of the United States, which had suspended military aid but resumed it within 48 hours, referring to it euphemistically as nonlethal aid, at double the previous level and at the same time characterizing it by aid in the form of lethal weapons [sentence as published]. Last week the United States decided to triple the previous quantity of aid, thus providing a spectacular demonstration of the government army's deathly weakness. From this viewpoint we consider the result favorable, since it exceeded the objectives that we set ourselves. But at the same time we cannot speak in this case of an absolute victory or an absolute defeat either on our part or the junta's.

On the other hand, on the international level there is an increasingly imminent, real threat to direct and large-scale intervention by the U.S. administration, which is the only basis of support for the junta. While the result has been fairly modest on the insurrectional level, where a gradual plan in several stages was envisaged, the results in the political struggle have been substantial: One cannot speak in terms of a total failure of revolutionary action, but rather of a development of the political struggle as a prelude to insurrectional action. All this must be analyzed and correctly assessed, inasmuch as the struggle could only be developed under particular conditions, since the preconditions for a conclusive action were lacking. It must still be made clear that at no time did the Revolutionary Democratic Front or the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front (FMLN) consider a strictly military solution, inasmuch as military action is an extension of political action, and in any case the military must be at the service of a political solution.

Now, with the large-scale U.S. intervention and with the real chance of more direct and vigorous action, more attention must be given to the possibility of a political solution, which cannot be separated, in a war situation, from its military aspect. Not only because of the existence of two armies but also because of the junta's swing to the right, its desire to "pacify" the country by exterminating the people's and democratic organizations--a political solution to which the main obstacle at present is U.S. military aid. There are no magic formulas. Points of agreement must be sought and all sides must devote all their efforts to seeking a political solution in this way.

[Question] How are the relations among the FDR, the FMLN and the guerrilla organizations?

[Answer] With regard to the FDR and the FMLN and as far as political leadership and politicomilitary strategy are concerned, a process of unity is underway both within these two organizations and in relations between the two groups. It is a process of maturation, of greater flexibility among the various components. The aspirations are fairly similar, but the movements differ from one another. The FMLN is a politicomilitary organization which puts itself forward as the vanguard of the people's struggle; the FDR is the political expression of the majority alliance of opposition sectors and an expression of popular power.

Mechanisms are being created that will make it possible to participate in political leadership and the formulation of political strategy without losing the specific nature of each organization. The FDR does not include military organizations and consequently contributes little to the waging of the war--a task which belongs more specifically to the FMLN. But as far as political aspects are concerned, as a result of the development of the war there are contacts between the bodies, but also shortcomings in leadership and political strategy. It is an integrated approach to the armed struggle, which implies a political, trade union and social struggle and at the same time embraces the international dimension.

[Question] The United States recently published a white paper on alleged military aid from Cuba and other communist countries to the Salvadoran guerrilla forces, portraying it as an international communist conspiracy. What is your reply to these charges?

[Answer] The FDR-FMLN Joint Political Commission has already issued an official reply. We refute these charges, primarily because of their strategic aim, namely, to portray El Salvador as a theater for East-West operations; we believe that this simply reflects the aim to justify the increasing U.S. intervention and to secure world approval and that it entirely ignores El Salvador's real domestic situation.

Second, we refute them because they constitute a falsification of the birth and development of the Salvadoran revolutionary military organization: it is not a struggle that began only a few weeks or months ago, but a process that has been going on for years, even when there was no unity among all the politicomilitary organizations and each one followed its own path. Moreover, no account is taken of the plurality of international solidarity, which has contributed to our struggle, or of the great variety and diversity of political and social forces in various countries--especially in the socialist camp--which have cooperated in various ways, offering their solidarity to the Salvadoran people.

Third, no account is taken of the support which the revolutionary struggle is receiving within the country--homemade [artigianale] and spontaneous support which is broadly acknowledged--the capturing of U.S. weapons by means of numerous actions and ambushes against the enemy army.

In fact the U.S. charges are based not on its own investigations but on the ones carried out by the Salvadoran Government--a repressive government which uses every means, even the must brutal, which constitute a violation of human rights--to enable it to concoct and falsify "proof" by means of torture, lies, deceit and informers.

All in all, we can say that the mountain has given birth to a mouse, in the attempt to portray the situation in El Salvador as a threat from the Eastern bloc. It seems to me that this is quite clearly understood and I have gained confirmation of this in the countries that I have visited, including Italy.

[Question] In short, what chances are there of a political solution to the Salvadoran crisis?

[Answer] The significant point is that while the junta has mentioned dialogue, it is doing quite the opposite: the massacres and repressions continue. The latest instance was the capture of General Majano. It talks about dialogue but does its utmost to prevent it. The U.S. behavior is similar; it talks about a political solution and the need for peace, but acts in the opposite direction, trying to strengthen the prospects for a military solution, failing to realize the dangers of failure involved in a military action. Offensives and counteroffensives in various sectors of the front have resulted in a failure of the junta's objectives.

We believe that a point of agreement can be reached, though it is more difficult at present because there is evidence of a political will opposed to a political solution. Nevertheless, we believe that a mediation process begun by a third side (a reference to the Socialist International's initiative--AVANTI note) could be the starting point for achieving a political solution. As such a mediation mechanism does not require that the sides involved begin a direct dialogue, but talk through a mediator or group of mediators. We are well disposed toward this possibility, which, however, depends not only on us but also on the antagonistic forces; we will really see where the good will lies. We hope that there will be good will on the part of the U.S. administration, which has such great influence on the Christian Democratic-military junta.

BRIEFS

HOUSING GOALS--The highest housing construction goal in the country's history will be met this year when 5,500 homes will be built, Public Works Minister Jorge Alberto Morales Guillen has reported. He said the homes will be built at a cost of over 100 million colones. [San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1806 GMT 11 Mar 81 PA]

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN EL SALVADOR

PA171522 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, in reply to question from correspondent Rene Delgado of UNO MAS UNO of Mexico City, on reports by some local circles that the Honduran Army is cooperating with its Salvadoran colleagues in the critical situation affecting that country, emphatically replied:

[Begin recording] The question in itself is offensive to us as a nation that respects the internal affairs of other states. Therefore, I categorically reject the insinuation. We, the members of the armed forces and the Honduran people, only have commitments to Honduras. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

ROBELO: SANDINISTS 'TOTALITARIAN DICTATORSHIP'

PA161459 Panama City Radio Continente in Spanish 1258 GMT 16 Mar 81

[Telephone interview with Nicaraguan Democratic Movement leader Alfonso Robelo in Nicaragua on "The World" program by Mayin Correa--live]

[Text] [Question] Can you tell us what is happening in Nicaragua right now? What has happened to the newspaper LA PRENSA, sole bulwark of the more or less free press there? Go ahead, Robelo. Thank you for being on "The World."

[Answer] In all Nicaraguan cities there have been criminal and vandalistic acts promoted and led by leaders of the government party, the Sandinist Front. As a result of these actions, we were forced to cancel a big rally that we were going to hold in Nandaime.

To be more specific, mobs led by Sandinist Front members blocked all the roads in Nicaragua, set fire to houses in Nandaime, overturned cars and in Managua completely destroyed two radio stations, Radio Mi Preferida and Radio Amor, and partially destroyed Radio Mundial. These actions were carried out by small groups of people who had been worked up and manipulated by Sandinist Front leaders, some of whom went to the area in front of the newspaper LA PRENSA and prevented its circulation yesterday. Interior Minister Commander Tomas Borge went to LA PRENSA and said that he could not give LA PRENSA guarantees for its circulation. Therefore, LA PRENSA, is not circulating today either.

As you can see, the situation is one of terror promoted by the government party, the Sandinist Front, and carried out by small groups of fanatics, really weak and simple people who are being manipulated. I want to stress that the two stations that were completely destroyed, Radio Mi Preferida and Radio Amor owned by Manuel Giron, also suffered similar destruction, perhaps somewhat lesser, during the time of the Somozist dictatorship. Today, this destruction is once again repeated. With this, the Nicaraguans receive one more sign that we are facing a new dictatorship. The previous one was a family-style dictatorship; this one is an ideological-style dictatorship, communist and completely totalitarian.

[Question] Did you have permission from the Sandinist government to hold that political rally? I am going to ask you several questions and then you reply. First, did you have a permit for that political rally? What hopes are there for elections and the organization of political parties in Nicaragua or what promises are there that broad political activities will be carried out in the country.

There have been many reports and commentaries regarding the suspension of U.S. aid to Nicaragua as a result of its charges of Nicaraguan participation in the weapons traffic and the training of Salvadoran guerrillas. How is the economic situation? Someone who visited Nicaragua told us that the situation seems difficult, that there are shortages and that there's a deterioration in the society, a kind of I-don't-care attitude and a feeling of uncertainty among the people. Can you give us a political, social and economic overview of the country's situation?

[Answer] Gladly. First of all regarding the permission, Interior Minister Tomas Borge had officially given us a permit to hold the rally outdoors. This permit became a mockery for Commander Borge and all the Nicaraguan people when the official party, the Sandinist Front, began an open campaign of mass agitation, trying to subvert order and to stir up the mobs to commit criminal acts which as I said, were committed everywhere. In fact, a shameful act occurred when a leader of our party was kidnapped. When some workers of his company called the police, the police cordially greeted the kidnappers and told them to leave and then they arrested the kidnap victim. I think this is worthy of Ripley's Believe It or Not. We are experiencing a situation in which normal citizens don't have any protection.

Let me continue with your questions. You also asked me about elections. I think that in this country the Sandinist Front has unilaterally said or ruled that elections will be held in 1985. Current events give us an idea of how those elections will be held, if they do occur some day. In truth, we Nicaraguans are increasingly losing hope of a civic struggle. We think that unless things change, it is very unlikely that we will have those elections. I hope I am mistaken. We will continue the civic struggle in Nicaragua. This is the only form of struggle that we know. We think it is worthwhile to continue to struggle.

Regarding the economic situation, I think that an economic crisis that has existed for some time is worsening. There are some shortages but they are not too marked. There is a sugar shortage. There will be a wheat shortage due to a standstill in the negotiations to obtain what from the United States. This is also related to your question on the U.S. aid.

I think that the Nicaraguan people and Nicaragua as a country deserve the aid of countries such as the United States, which supported the Somoza regime and which are financially strong. The Nicaraguan people definitely deserve the generous aid of the world. What occurs is that in many cases, an intelligent foreign policy is required to obtain this aid. I don't think the Nicaraguan Government has done this since it has totally aligned itself with Havana and Moscow. This has begun to close doors for us. There have been gratuitous offenses. This is why I believe that aid is being indirectly denied to the Nicaraguan people. I insist that the aid should come and it should come to the Nicaraguan people and not the government party, even though this is difficult.

Regarding the political situation in the country, I think pluralism has been seriously limited by the vandalistic actions and the nights of terror that Nicaragua experienced over the weekend. This is a setback for the small degree of pluralism and democracy that we had and a step forward for a Marxist-Leninist totalitarian regime.

[Question] A Panamanian newspaper reported that the Sandinist government said that you and your political party decided to cancel the political rally in Nandaime because you were overwhelmed by the mass demonstrations in repudiation of your antipatriotic positions. The official Nicaraguan sector said that you and your group are clearly reactionary and that you had the Interior Ministry's approval to hold the rally but that due to the aforementioned reasons you decided not to hold it. Can you comment on this report that appears on the front page of LA PRENSA regarding the Managua official sector's comment on yesterday's political events.

[Answer] You can see by the terms used who we are dealing with. The official permit was nothing but a trick. As I said before, the official permit was granted with one hand and with the other, the government agitated the people, manipulating poor defenseless people to take them to those shameful acts. Why does the government do this? For a very simple reason: They are afraid of democracy. They are afraid of a rally that due to the number of people who were going to attend it--some 60,000 people--was going to show not only to Nicaragua but to the world that we are being ruled by a minority, a minority whose power is based on the brute force of weapons, a minority that does not have popular support. That is the reality. In any moderately civilized country of the world civic rallies are held. I insist that what has occurred in Nicaragua is truly a mockery of all this.

Regarding the statements that we maintain reactionary and antipatriotic positions, it is interesting that Alfonso Robelo is now all these things but when they needed my cooperation to overthrow Somoza, they were full of praises. This changes according to their interests. We know the morality of the communists so I am not surprised by these kinds of statements.

[Question] Going deeper into things, our attention is drawn to the fact that to overthrow Somoza, Nicaragua received aid from Cuba and of course from many other countries. It continues to receive aid from Cuba through the teachers and doctors who are helping in the literacy campaign and other government programs. However, Cuba doesn't seem to be helping Nicaragua economically. It is true that Cuba doesn't have money to help. The Cubans need aid themselves. There is rationing and they have economic problems. However, the Soviet Union is the second most important and wealthiest empire of the world. Why have the Soviets, through Cuba, refused to give economic aid to Nicaragua as they helped with weapons and training for the overthrow of Somoza and as they now help other countries with costly weapons. Why do you think that the Soviet Union is not giving Nicaragua economic aid as it did and still does with regard to weapons? Why haven't you received that aid from the Soviet Union.

[Answer] I think the answer lies in the fact that the Cuban experience is a real failure. The cost is very high. In Cuba, approximately $1 a day is given to each resident. That is to say, [telephone call cut off].

[Correa] The telephone communications with Robelo in Managua, Nicaragua have been cut off. I would like to think that it has been an accident as those that occur here in Radio Continente. When we are going to broadcast something that not many people transmit, the power is interrupted or the transmission tower has some damage. I would like to think it is one of the usual accidents that occur here in Radio Continente. At the time that we asked the question the call is cut off. It has been an accident, dear listeners, that the conversation with Robelo was interrupted precisely at the time when he was going to analyze the critical economic situation of Cuba and why it doesn't give Nicaragua money as it gave weapons and why it doesn't give wheat, meat and all that Nicaragua needs, it just sends teachers. This was an accident of the National Telecommunications Institute with Radio Continente. So friends, don't think the worst as I do since I am always suspicious.

[Question] Engineer Robelo, you were answering the question as to why the Soviet Union through Cuba does not help Nicaragua economically. I understand that the aid has included doctors, teachers, and so forth, but not the expected economic aid, in view of their active participation in supplying arms and guerrilla training to carry out the revolution. The revolution has been quite loyal by following the political alignments they have in their countries--their ideologies, why do you supposed this aid has not been forthcoming and, instead, they now expect it from the United States?

[Answer] It is basically due to the fact that the Cuban experiment of massive aid has been a total failure. If we use the more objective information that is available, we will see that Cuba is given approximately $1 per person per day. In other words, in the case of Cuba, we are talking of about $10 million daily.

If we were to apply that to the case of Nicaragua, the aid would amount to $2.5 million daily, in other words, $750 million annually; 10 times more than the much-discussed aid of $75 million that the United States gave us and of which the United States froze the last $15 million. In other words, the Cuban experiment is an expensive experiment, and if we apply that same rate of $1 per person per day to other countries that want to experiment with communism and that usually have bankrupt economies, then not even the USSR--no matter how rich--could cope with that financial burden. Naturally, this is even more true because the USSR has internal pressures from its people who see how vast amounts of money are spent on military outlays and a tremendous space race, and they are demanding and improvement of their poor living conditions. That is why I think the Cuban experience has not yielded good results, because the Cuban economy is subsidized and very weak and cannot support itself.

[Question] You are listening to Mr Robelo from Managua who is reporting on the Nicaraguan situation. Mr Robelo, I know you are scheduled to hold a news conference in a few minutes in your office or your home, and they are waiting for you, that is why we will hurry. Why don't you tell us first, what announcement you are going to make, and what you can do to show the political force of your opposition? The newspaper LA PRENSA has not been published today for security reasons, or because the government requested it. Perhaps it will not be published anymore. Being that it is the only free media in the country, what are you people going to do now? What will you announce in that news conference?

[Answer] I called a group of newsmen in to give them the information I have already given you. Actually, when we look toward the future, we feel that the outlook is becoming darker, we feel that a door has been closed. However, I wish to tell you that we will continue struggling because we have a great commitment to the Nicaraguan people, most of whom support democracy and do not favor totalitarianism. That is a very serious commitment and we will struggle. It is true that doors have been closed, but as long as we are able, we will continue fighting. Actually, that is the basic outlook toward the future. My party's leadership will meet at the highest level today to study the situation, to analyze the barbaric actions committed up to now and analyze the situation that we are facing a new dictatorship now, a totalitarian dictatorship.

[Question] One last question, and please forgive me. General Torrijos and Panama helped Nicaragua on the basis--we are sure--that Nicaragua would become a democracy, an authentic pluralism. That was the commitment and Torrijos has repeatedly said so. If you came to ask Torrijos and Panama for aid for the reestablishment of democracy in that country, why doesn't your group now come to General Torrijos, who has so much influence with the Sandinist government, and see if he can do something for you? Why haven't you asked him to help you, as you asked him prior to the victory of the Sandinist revolution?

[Answer] I think your proposal might be a good idea. Up to now, we never imagined things would reach this extreme. We thought that the Nicaraguans alone could straighten out this crooked path. Perhaps the moment is near when we will have to ask some true friends of the Nicaraguan revolution to try to see if it is possible to mend this revolution in a civilized manner. As we all know, this revolution is giving evidence that it is heading toward communist totalitarianism.

[Question] Although I am not clairvoyant, I carefully observe national and international affairs and I have always known that the revolution was heading where it now is. That is why I am watching the Nicaraguan situation and this radio station and myself, we knew from the beginning that Cuba was seeking to create another Cuba here, with other faces or manners, but it does seek another ally for the USSR, for the Soviet empire. We are carefully following the situation, and that is why we urge you to call us when you have anything to report to us.

This is the second or third time we have called you, because we are very interested in the situation, as are our listeners who almost always agree with our stand here. Please call us. This is Radio Continente, telephone number 69-6161 or 69-6162. We will be very happy to report on anything you wish to make public outside Nicaragua. Thank you and good luck, Mr Robelo, and onward with your struggle.

RADIO SANDINO COUNTERS ROBELO CRITICISM ABROAD

PA172026 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Alfonso Robelo's main objective abroad is slander. According to him, the night the people held their watch was a night of terror.

Of course, Robelo hurriedly left the country to engage in his main activity ever since he chose to align himself with the enemies of the people, that is, the slander and discredit campaign against the revolution.

Now an ACAN-EFE dispatch from Panama quotes the two-bit politician of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] as saying that Nicaragua experienced a night of terror Saturday.

This is what he is resorting to in order to hide the fact that it was not Nicaragua and its people, but precisely the bourgeoisie and their henchmen who were terrified in face of the people's indignation they triggered with their provocation. He is now trying to sell this as a consumer item abroad to continue attacking Nicaragua.

The image he is trying to sell to his accomplices of the transnational corporations is that of a regrettable vision of hordes led by Sandinist elements. He takes pains to hide the fact that the leaders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] had to issue appeals to the people to keep their just indignation from taking on larger proportions. His repeated references to democracy and pluralism only reveal his aims, that is, a democracy without participation by the people and pluralism under which the people's social sectors would have no role and only the voice of the usual exploiters would be heard.

FSLN COMMUNIQUE BLAMES MDN FOR INCIDENTS

PA171541 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Communique issued by Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] on 16 March 1981--read by Rene Nunez, FSLN National Secretariat member]

[Text] The National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, in light of the events which took place beginning on 10 March and culminating on 13 and 14 March, informs our people of the following:

1. The revolutionary government, within the framework of political pluralism, placed no obstacles to prevent the National Democratic Movement, MDN, from carrying out its activity in conformity with revolutionary laws. It informed the leaders of that organization beforehand of the difficult situation prevailing in Nicaragua, which is being militarily threatened, pressured economically and the victim of dirty publicity campaigns abroad and inside the country. We urged them to practice prudence in their propaganda and in the manner of staging the planned activity.

To this end, Commander Borge held several meetings with the MDN leaders.

2. The MDN, misinterpreting the pluralistic commitment of the revolutionary government, staged a provocative publicity campaign against the revolution, the government and the mass organizations, combining the summons to its activity with the already constant campaign of attacks on and distortions of the Sandinist people's revolution.

Simultaneously with the plan to gather their supporters in Nandaime, the MDN leaders accused the revolution of militarizing the country, which strangely coincided with the concern expressed by a U.S. State Department spokesman.

3. Several media lent themselves to these provocative activities, hurting the feelings of the popular organizations by calling them mobs and hatefully comparing them with the groups of criminals that were organized by Somozism. The growing popular wrath was fed when those media cynically sought to justify the suspension of the loan for the purchase of wheat decided upon by the U.S. Government.

4. Despite the fact that the Nicaraguan people responded in an exemplary and vigorous manner to the political provocations of the MDN, the provocateurs continued to act and to describe as criminal the activity that the masses carried out throughout the country, activities which could be considered as an initial insurrectional effort by the people against the reactionaries.

Small retrogressive groups continue to act, within the policies of the reactionaries, in some educational and working centers in [word indistinct], Managua, Matagalpa and other cities.

5. The Sandinist Front has not encountered, in the political sectors which oppose the revolution, particularly in the MDN, a serious willingness to contribute to the maintenance of the political stability that Nicaragua needs in order to devote itself to the basic tasks of the revolution, to which our people have dedicated all their enthusiasm and energy, working with particular heroism to increase production in voluntary agricultural efforts and training, on their days off, to strengthen the defense of the fatherland.

6. In view of the withholding of the loans to which the U.S. Government had committed itself, in view of the increasingly direct threats being made by some reactionary sectors of Central America [words indistinct] our revolution, in view of the charges that the Sandinist Front is intervening in the internal fighting in El Salvador, in view of the propaganda campaigns abroad and inside the country, it was inevitable and even necessary that the just wrath of the people would explode.

Freedom was not won on 19 July for people to tolerate the promotion of counterrevolution, the justification of aggressions against our fatherland, the encouraging of armed incursions by Somozist bands, the practicing of blackmail against the revolutionary government, or a return to the past.

Freedom was won after heroic and bloody periods of struggle to attain sovereignty and dignity and to emerge from backwardness, poverty, ignorance and dependence. Freedom was won to allow the people to make their own decisions.

7. The FSLN reaffirms that it will respect the people's will, regardless of the manner in which the people express that will. If, because of the climate produced by the irresponsibility of the MDN politicians and by media, certain actions that might be considered excessive took place, the only persons responsible are the provocateurs of those parties which sought to question the revolution and confront a people who have already decided not to take a single step backward in their historic path.

8. Without any doubt, the established framework of political pluralism and the national unity that has been promoted by the FSLN and that has been made real by the Government of National Reconstruction in structural and institutional terms, are being guarded by the people, who accept them because they mean steps forward and not backward in the march to the future.

The irresponsible politicians who try to use the political activity permitted by the revolution solely and exclusively as instruments of destabilization and questioning could cause the people to decide to take action to change the rules of the game that have been established.

The FSLN will, at every moment, place itself at the people's head, whatever their decision.

9. Unlike the adventurous political sectors which have centered their activities on an attempt to take power, there are other forces which are making an effort to reconstruct the country, sectors like the cotton growers, who at this time are joining efforts with the FSLN to carry out the harvest.

The patriotic producers, whose central concern is production, would be harmed if, because of the irresponsibility of adventurous politicians, there were to be definitive alterations in what have so far been the framework of participation.

Producers, who are committed to the reactivation of the country, have to understand the urgent need to work intensively to end the provocations against our people and join efforts, within the framework of the revolution, to guarantee the climate of peace and work that the country demands.

Despite the obstacles and difficulties imposed by the politickers, this is completely possible.

10. The incidents that occurred this weekend indicate to us that we have to strengthen, in terms or organization and awareness, our people's infinite store of energy.

It is necessary to continue the rapid development of the Sandinist People's Militias, continue the consolidation of the Sandinist Defense Committees as popular organizations of revolutionary vigilance, promote the participation of the people in the volunteer police force, increase our efforts to raise the level of production, multiply our defensive and deterrent capability in the light of the provocative actions and demonstrate, once and for all, that only to the Nicaraguan people are we obliged to give explanations and only to their decisions will we always bow with the same respect with which we pay homage to the sacrifice of those who made our revolution possible.

Sandino yesterday, Sandino today, Sandino forever. Free fatherland or death.

National Directorate of the FSLN.

MDN COORDINATOR IN CARAZO RELEASED BY AUTHORITIES

PA131749 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Mar 81

[Text] Engr Mario Gutierrez Pena, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN, in Carazo, was released today, according to the authorities.

Gutierrez Pena had been arrested upon the discovery of an arms cache on a farm of his property in Nandaime. His release was ordered by the authorities, however, when the investigation showed that Gutierrez had nothing to do with the arms found on his land.

BRIEFS

PRISONERS PARTICIPATE IN HARVEST--Some 1,130 prisoners from the Jorge Navarro and the Heros and Martyrs of Neuva Guinea rehabilitation centers in Managua have volunteered to help in the cotton harvest. They will remain on the cotton plantations in the western part of the country for 6 weeks. They will receive the regular wage paid to plantation workers. [Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Mar 81 PA]

ACTING MINISTER COMMENTS ON PORTUGUESE DIPLOMAT

PA180252 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Mar 81

[Interview with Ricardo Alarcon, acting Cuban minister of foreign relations, by Pedro Martinez Vives at Jose Marti Airport in Havana--live or recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] At Jose Marti Airport in Havana, we interviewed Ricardo Alarcon, acting minister of foreign relations of Cuba, who will be leaving in a few minutes for Ecuador on his second diplomatic mission to that country.

[Question] We heard the official statement issued yesterday by the Foreign Ministry in which the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations accuses Francisco de Sales Mascarena, the Portuguese charge d'affaires in our country, of having been in contact with the Central Intelligence Agency and of having organized, promoted, stimulated and participated in the incident that occurred recently at the Ecuadorean Embassy here in Havana for the purpose of darkening the relations between our two countries. We would like to hear any information you have in this regard, Ricardo Alarcon.

[Answer] At the Foreign Ministry yesterday afternoon, we informed the entire diplomatic corps, that is, all the heads of diplomatic missions accredited in Cuba--and I must say that everyone was there--about these very grave facts, and we read the document which has been published by our press and about which our people know.

In this document, we stressed the responsibility of the U.S. CIA in organizing the assault on the Ecuadorean Embassy and abducting its diplomats and the participation of Mr Mascarena in the preparations, the organization and the support he offered the antisocial elements who were used as instruments in this action.

I must tell you that Mr Mascarena, in his capacity as charge d'affaires of Portugal, was also present at this meeting, at which he also spoke. Among other things, he admitted that he knew these persons. I am using his very own words; that is, that he had relations with the antisocial elements who participated in the assault on the Ecuadorean Embassy. We would like to ask him to explain how a gentleman, a head of a diplomatic mission, could have close ties with the type of individuals who attacked the Ecuadorean Embassy. But in addition to that, when this Mr Mascarena was about the leave the room in which we met with the entire diplomatic corps, there, in the presence of the diplomatic corps, we told him that if he were willing to deny the charges being made against him, our government was willing to provide the means for him to come face-to-face with the persons responsible for the events which occurred at the Ecuadorean Embassy; and that we were even offering him all the press media of our country, including radio and television, with its cameras and microphones, so that there, face-to-face with the perpetrators of the assault on the Ecuadorean Embassy, he would dare to deny his responsibility in these events. The foreign diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba are all witnesses to this challenge and have also witnessed the reaction of Mascarena, who did not reply to this challenge and left the room.

[Question] The Cuban official note says that the decision of the CIA, through the diplomat, Mascarena, to select the Ecuadorean Embassy was because of the good relations existing between the governments of our countries.

[Answer] That was it, in effect. This was a determining factor in the decision of the attackers. Mr Mascarena orientated them to choose the Ecuadorean mission for perpetrating this criminal act because of the friendly relations that have always existed between the two countries, Ecuador and Cuba, and in response to a strategic concept, a plan of the CIA to affect relations between the two countries.

Mr Mascarena could have accepted them in his embassy. He was the head of the Portuguese mission. He could have tried some sort of action using his own information media. However, he orientated them toward the Ecuadorean Embassy as a way of provoking a difficult situation in the relations between Cuba and Ecuador as part of the CIA's policy of isolating the Cuban revolution, of harassing our people, of imposing the illegal blockade which for 20 years, Yankee imperialism has applied against Cuba. In addition, since Mr Mascarena lives almost across from the Ecuadorean Embassy, he found it feasible to orient and to advise the attackers and to use his own residence and himself as an instrument of support for the criminal act that occurred on 13 February. That is, he could see and study the movements of the Ecuadorean diplomats, the placing of the guards of that embassy; he could see whether the diplomats were there or not, their autos, and so forth. In other words, he acted by using his own house as an observation point; and he not only oriented the attacks and offered advice; he was an active collaborator in making preparations for the attack.

[Question] Concerning Cuba's charge that this Portuguese diplomat has contacts with an official of the U.S. CIA, did this diplomat give an answer to this in his meeting with you?

[Answer] No. He refrained from commenting on it, and nobody made an allusion to this during the meeting.

[Question] And what about the contact of this diplomat with a foreign newsman to give this event the maximum coverage possible? Was there a reply from Mascarena?

[Answer] No. He muttered words that were somewhat incoherent, trying to deny the charges, even though--and I insist on this--he admitted that he knew the persons who attacked the Ecuadorean Embassy. As I said before, it was at this moment that we challenged him, if he was willing to do it, to hold a face-to-face meeting with his friends, those responsible for the attack on the Ecuadorean Embassy, before the television cameras, before the microphones of our radio, before the national and foreign press, to see if he was capable of denying the grave charges that our government, fully founded and after having carefully proved all the facts, was making.

[Question] Cuba's charges also mention Mascarena's possession of arms?

[Answer] Mascarena kept in his house part of the arms that were used on the day of the attack on the Ecuadorean Embassy. That is why I said earlier that his house was used a a means of fundamental support for the action. He received them from the attackers previously, put them away in his house and they picked them up on the day of the events and with them marched upon the Ecuadorean Embassy.

[Question] Has the Cuban Foreign Ministry received any official note, any official staement from the Portuguese Foreign Ministry in connection with these grave incidents here in Havana by the charge d'affaires of that European country?

[Answer] To the moment, no official note has been received. However, we saw some newspaper reports this morning stating that the Portuguese Foreign Ministry had decided to recall Mr Mascarena to Lisbon. To be sure, these newspaper reports mention the safety of Mr Mascarena and guarantees for him. Mr Mascarena is in perfect health. He has no problems in our country. As I said before, he was invited, along with the other heads of mission, to the meeting which was held yesterday afternoon at the Foreign Ministry. In addition, he was offered the possibility, if he dared to, to face, to discuss, to come face-to-face with his friends, the attackers of the Ecuadorean Embassy, who have clearly pointed to Mascarena's responsibility in these events. We must say that it is fairly ironic that this person would fear for his security as a diplomat in Havana since he has not only acted in a grave and inadmissible way against Cuba--he has even made statements to these criminals regarding the possibility of an attack on the commander in chief--but in addition, he has also acted in a way that is abominable against his own diplomatic colleagues. This is something that has no precedence in diplomatic life. At least I do not remember any other case in which a head of mission has lent himself to collaborating, to participating actively in the preparation and carrying out of an attack on an embassy, the seizure of hostages, an ambassador and several diplomats.

In other words, he endangered and put in serious danger the lives of several colleagues of his, of several diplomatic colleagues. It is for this reason that our government decided that this information should be known by all the members of the diplomatic corps and that all the chiefs of mission should appreciate the seriousness and the rigor of the accusation made by Cuba and also to see the reaction of this individual. As I said, it is ironic that a person, who had reached the most unheard-of extreme of threatening the safety of his own diplomatic colleagues, is now concerned over his own personal security. It appears as though the image of his own crime is persecuting him and it is this image that is not letting him sleep.

[Question] Does the Ecuadorean Government know all about this incident, all about this participation of the Portuguese charge d'affaires in the attack on the Ecuadorean Embassy here in Havana?

[Answer] For reasons of courtesy and of special deference toward the Government of Ecuador and President Jaime Roldos, before making this charge public, our ambassador in Quito had the opportunity of talking to the president of Ecuador and giving him this information. Also, before telling the diplomatic corps here in Havana, we had a separate meeting with the charge d'affires of Ecuador, and we told him about these things.

MEXICAN TRADE DELEGATION SIGNS SUGAR DEAL

FL171247 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Cuba will provide Mexico this year with a total of 200,000 tons of refined sugar under a second agreement for 100,000 tons signed on Monday in Havana. The previous agreement, which provided for the first 100,000 tons, had been signed in Mexico City by a Cuban delegation that visited Mexico for that purpose.

The Mexican trade delegation is headed by the president of the Mexican Sugar Commission, Everardo Espino, who was received at the Havana airport by Cuban Ministers Hector Rodriguez Llompart and Ricardo Cabrizas.

BRIEFS

SUPPLY MEETING--Osmani Cienfuegos, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Politburo and vice president of the Council of Ministers, was present at the special meeting of officials of the State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, CEATM. The committee's work in the recently ended 5-year period, particularly the years 1978-80, was discussed at the meeting. CEATM Minister President Irma Sanchez led the discussion of the main report read by First Vice President Rodrigo Garcia, who noted that in 1980 the recovery of raw materials was five times higher than in 1962. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2142 GMT 11 Mar 81 FL]

BARBADOS

GOVERNMENT GRANTS AMNESTY TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

FL171820 Bridgetown CANA in English 1807 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 17 Mar (CANA)--Barbados has told eastern Caribbean nationals living here illegally prior to 1 September 1975 that they could stay legally, but will have to go through the formalities.

Prime Minister Tom Adams told the House of Assembly that while he was aware that there were Barbadian jobs to be protected and immigration laws to be upheld, he had no intention of harassing immigrants from neighboring islands living here for many years, but who had not gone through the formalities of obtaining citizenship.

The prime minister denied that his government was bringing large numbers of immigrants into Barbados for political purposes.

After indicating the amnesty for long-stay illegal immigrants, Mr Adams said the immigration authorities intended to tighten up against those people who were not lawfully residing in the country.

Mr Adams said that his government would not be so generous with people who had come into the island since September 1975 and stayed illegally.

He, however, pointed out that some of those people had other grounds on which they could make application for permission to remain.

If they had been in the island four-and-a-half years, were good citizens, and had connections in Barbados, then they could make application and have it considered, he said.

"They would generally have to make out a case which entitled them to a work permit in an area where their skills were needed.

"We may be prospering, but may not necessarily continue to prosper under fraudulent immigration. This government has no policy of allowing in any flood of immigrants", the prime minister said.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ON ENERGY CONSERVATION

FL171614 Bridgetown CANA in English 1549 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, 17 Mar (CANA)--Barbados has expressed fears that its socio-economic achievements over the years stand threatened by the continuing world energy problem.

Deputy Prime Minister Bernard St John expressed government's concerns when he addressed the opening session of a one week hotel energy audit training seminar here yesterday.

The seminar is jointly sponsored by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, the Barbados Hotel Association and the government, and is part of regional efforts to stimulate energy conservation.

"Despite the modest OPEC increases in oil prices during 1980, this coupled with the continued hostility between Iran and Iraq, and the bitterly cold winters which North America and Europe have been experiencing, there is every indication that the price of energy will continue to rise this year, thus sparking off another round of inflationary pressures in our economy," Mr St John said.

Over the years, the minister said, the people of Barbados had earnestly strived towards the establishment of an industry-based economy and the achievement of a comfortable standard of living, and this had resulted in a steadily expanding light manufacturing sector, and consistent growth of real per capita income.

"However, what is now of very grave concern to me is the fact that the catalogue of substantial achievements which we have attained over the years is now under the threat of being undermined by the energy problem," Mr St John lamented.

Mr St John said that since the crippling price hike of 1973-74, OPEC had been abled to effectively control the supply and prices of petroleum to oil importing countries.

For Barbados, OPEC's policy of keeping the oil market slightly undersupplied, while periodically raising prices, has meant a sevenfold increase in the island's petroleum costs since 1973, he said, imports of fuel and lubricants rose to 118.9 million dollars (1 Bds dollar: 50 cents US) or 14 per-cent of the island's total import bill.

The minister added: "Despite the fact that our energy problem is a result of the high cost of imported fossil fuels which is usually viewed as a problem imposed on us, the not so obvious facet of the energy problem is that which we generate internally through the inefficiency with which energy generated from petroleum products are used throughout the island.

"In spite of the increase in energy costs during the past decade, there is still this wasteful consumption of energy in the society.

A lack of concern about the level of use of energy continues to help drive consumption in Barbados upward at an average rate of about 7 percent per annum, as compared to about 4 per cent in the United States and Western Europe, the minister of tourism said.

The combination of climbing consumption and rocketing costs clearly points to the need for Barbados to examine ways of controlling the use of energy while striving to maintain our growth rates in the economy, he said.

Mr St John said that he was convinced that great energy conservation measures can be effected in the Barbados hotel industry, which has played an important role in the development of the economy.

Mr St John added: "No energy conservation program can be successful unless all the people in Barbados are aware of the problems and equip themselves with the knowledge of energy-saving methods, for it is only then that we can be assured of the understanding, involvement and dedication necessary for the task at hand."

DOMINICA

LEADERS SEES SECURITY IMPROVEMENT IN 3 MONTHS

FL171753 Bridgetown CANA in English 1748 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, 17 Mar (CANA)--Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles says she does not believe that the current state of emergency--declared after an armed kidnapping--would greatly affect the development plans of her administration.

Miss Charles made the comment last night while being interviewed on the state-owned Dominica Broadcasting Corporations (DBS) radio station.

Miss Charles told her interviewer that while a state of emergency "is never good for development because it indicates a state of instability in the country...we are fortunate in that the outside world has seen that we have grasped the problem quickly and dealt with it very quickly and very decisively."

She said that the various newspapers, through their editorials, had agreed that her government was on top of the problem, adding "this is what investors want to know. After all, these troubles do occur in other countries, and if they are dealt with promptly and with decision and with strength, I think people appreciate this and therefore the instability which would normally be the case is not that great.

Asked how long she thought the current state of affairs would last, Miss Charles replied:... "The whole problem will be completely wiped out in a longer time, but in 3 months I am quite sure you will see the beginning of the end of all of this."

GRENADA

BISHOP CALLS OLD CONSTITUTION 'FARCE', 'SHAM'

FL171548 Bridgetown CANA in English 1535 GMT 17 Mar 81

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, 17 Mar (CANA)--A dearth of qualified personnel is among factors hampering the drafting of a document to replace Grenada's constitution, suspended after the 13 March 1979 coup, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has said here.

He spoke at a weekend news conference as his New Jewel Movement government, which ousted the Sir Eric Gairy regime, marked its second year in office.

Defending the decision to suspend the old constitution, Bishop said the document was a "farce" and a "sham" and did not guarantee a lot of rights which should be entrenched.

He said the constitution did not give any power (or) authority to the people as they are represented in their (several local) organizations, and he feels this is a fundamental omission.

A new constitution is to be introduced, he said, but there has not been enough time to assess the permanence and stability of the "new democratic organizations of the people" which are now evolving.

In addition he said there has been the difficulty of obtaining the services of constitutional experts to act as a constitution commission.

When appointed, this commission will be expected to submit a model constitution which will be subjected to "full public discussion" before a consultative assembly of the people considers it and makes suggestions, the prime minister told newsmen.

"This commission then goes back, bearing in mind the suggestions that have come," Bishop said, "and writes up another draft which comes back to the government, which we would like to have approved through some popular referendum."

The prime minister did not give any likely time frame for introducing the new constitution.

CASTRO SENDS ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO BISHOP

FL130015 St Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] Prime Minister Brother Maurice Bishop tonight received a message from Comrade Fidel Castro. The text of the message reads:

Dear Comrade Bishop, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the triumph of the revolution, I wish to extend to the heroic people of Grenada, to the New Jewel Movement, and especially to you personally, the warmest and most fraternal congratulations on behalf of the people, the Communist Party and the Government of Grenada [as heard]. We are deeply glad to have seen the sustained advance of the revolutionary process begun in your country only 2 years ago.

The achievements reached in all fields in favor of the large people's masses and the growing determination of all the people to defend their gains at any expense is an eloquent example of the firmness and of the complete consolidation of your revolution.

During its short revolutionary life, the Grenadian people have had to share their efforts in production with the defense of the country against imperialism and its allies' attempts to destroy the revolution. The response of the people has been staunch and despite the counterrevolutionary maneuvers and threats, valuable results have been obtained.

The people and the Government of Cuba are quite happy for all these successes and are sure that under the wise and unswerving direction of the New Jewel Party and the revolutionary government (?under your) leadership, the Grenadian people will reach its lofty objectives in the struggle for welfare and social justice.

Thanks to its (? faithful), constructive and consistent foreign policy, Grenada has reached a deserved international prestige as well as the admiration and respect of all the democratic and progressive forces all over the world which highly appreciate your active contributions in the struggle for peace, security, detente and the Nonaligned Countries' Movement.

With profound satisfaction and cheerfulness we observe that the bonds of friendship, fraternity and fruitful collaboration between the two countries are dynamically developing and raising up [as heard]. We reiterate our conviction that those brotherly links of cooperation will develop and strengthen in favor of our two countries and of the friendship and solidarity between Latin America and the Caribbean countries.

The people of Cuba feel deep affection and admiration for its Grenadian brothers and highly appraise your always effective solidarity with the Cuban revolution. These feelings were made clear during your visits to our country to participate in the celebration of May Day and the Second Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba.

On this occasion of the glorious day for the people of Grenada, we reiterate our deepest thankfulness for your feelings of friendship, fraternity and solidarity with Cuba and happy wishes for your people, your government and you personally, dear Comrade Bishop, we wish you the greatest success in your endeavours for the prosperity and welfare of your homeland.

Signed, Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State and Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

NICARAGUANS, OTHERS ARRIVE FOR CELEBRATIONS

FL122337 St. Georges Domestic Service in English 2300 GMT 12 Mar 81

[Text] An 11-man delegation from Nicaragua arrived in the island this afternoon bringing to approximately 150 the number of overseas guests who are here to participate in the celebrations marking the second festival of the revolution.

Included in the Nicaraguan delegation are two ministers of the Sandinista Government for National Reconstruction, (Miguel Rivas), the minister of home affairs, and Ernesto Cardenal, the minister of culture, who is also a Roman Catholic priest.

Earlier today, Bill Riviere of the Dominica Liberation Movement and (James Knight) of the Antigua Caribbean Liberation Movement arrived for the celebration. Other dignitaries who are in Grenada include the Hungarian ambassador to Grenada, His Excellency Mr (Pierat), the ambassador to Grenada from the Soviet Union, and (Trevor Gordon) of the United Nations Development Fund.